IMT Nuremberg Archives

H – 1134

International Court of Justice

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT [illegible]
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Exhibit U.S.A. 386
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

Copy

Office West
The Head of the Department

Paris, August 8th 1944

Progress Report up to July 31st 1944

The Office West achieved the following results up to July 31st 1944:

69 619 Jewish homes were confiscated.

Dispatched to the several towns, including special orders, were:

69 512 Sets of furnishings, each a complete house.

The sum total of furniture and fittings dispatched required a loading capacity of:

1 079 373 cbm.

The following were required to provide this capacity incl. additional deliveries:

26 984 railroad cars, equivalent to 674 trains.

Further during the action we confiscated for the use of the Reich and handed over to the Department for Foreign Exchange (Devisenschutzkommando):

11 695 516 RM Foreign currency and Securities.

The special purpose branches in France, Belgium and Holland furthermore dispatched:

2 191 352 kg Scrap Metal, Scrap Paper and textiles.

According to the report on Special Tasks (Sonderaufgaben) bombed-out persons accommodated in France, were presented with furniture and fittings valued at

1 516 186 RM

The above results were achieved by a staff of

30 female and 82 male

Officials and Employees of the Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories.

- - - - - - - -

A True Copy
(Signed) Deubelmann
Employee

Office West

Paris, 7.8.44
Schw/H

In carrying out the Fuehrer's orders for the M-action, the following results were achieved within the area of the Office West from invasion day (6th June 44) up to 1st August 44, by 30 female and 82 male officials and employees of the Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories.

1) Camoins (trucks) arrived (through confiscation of homes in Paris). 2006

2) Railroad cars arrived from Branch Offices 52

H1134 - 0002

3) Railroad cars loaded and dispatched to Germany. 372

4) Receipts from sale of Scrap Material 28 124 91 [illegible]

5) Boxes received 20 154

6) Boxes handled, packed and dispatched: 21 710

containing:

China	199 boxes
Glass	208 "
Kitchen utensils	196 "
Clothing	117 "
Coat-hangers	120 "
Tailors' materials	45 "
Linen	128 "
Curtains, for windows	8 "
Curtains (heavy)	72 "
Mirrors	24 "
Clocks	73 "
Vases	45 "
Lamps	102 "
Brushes	29 "
Toys	99 "
Sports gear	42 "
Optical instruments	17 "
Electrical appliances	48 "
Tools	35 "
Gasmasks	78 "
Leather goods	253 "
Medical goods	41 "
Sanitary goods	119 "
Household goods	115 "
Scrap iron	1,503 "
Scrap paper	1,714 "
Books	482 "
Copper, aluminum	266 "
Bottles	730 "
Rags	240 pressed bales
Scraps of furs	123 boxes
Silver goods	33 "

7) Special work:

SS-Garrison-Administration Munich	27 cars
SS-Directorats Central Office	51 wagons
116th Armoured Regiment, Dortmund	2 "
116th " " "	2 "
47th Inf. Div.	3 "
Obersturmfuehrer Tychsen, Wearer of the Oak Leaves Medal (Eichenlaubträger)	1 "
Cptn. Ninnemann	1 "
Cptn. Adamy	1 "
Sturmbannf. Brehmer, Wearer of Knights' Cross (Ritterkreuzträger)	1 "
Obergruppenf. Lorenz, Berlin	3 "
Reich Postal Director, Berlin, Cuilleaume	1 "
Pianos, Messrs H. Langner, Breslau	3 "
Division: "Das Reich"	1 "

The cabinet-makers' workshop set up in the camp repaired and restored:

H1134 - 0003

30 Sideboards
23 Dining Room Tables
56 Dining Room Chairs
43 Chests of Drawers
65 Beds
10 Dressing Tables
30 Bedside-Tables and Washing-Stands
12 Book Cases
24 Writing Desks
25 Easy Chairs
25 Kitchen Cabinets
15 Kitchen Tables
35 Kitchen Chairs
1 Couch

4 Easy chairs were upholstered and recovered.

Report on the M.-Action

The fight against Jews, Freemasons and the forces allied to them or otherwise ideologically opposed to us, has always been a most urgent task of National Socialism, especially during the War which has been forced upon us. In order to secure, within the areas occupied by Germany, all research material and the cultural effects of the groups indicated and to dispatch them to Germany, the Fuehrer at the suggestion of Reichsleiter Rosenberg was ordered that libraries, archives, lodges and other ideological and cultural institutions of all kinds be searched for appropriate material and that this be secured for the ideological instruction of the National Socialist Party.

The same order applies to cultural effects which were either in the possession of or were the property of Jews and were unclaimed or originated from sources not clearly ascertainable.

The Special Purpose Staff (Einsatzstab) of Reichsleiter Rosenberg was charged with the carrying out of this task. In addition to this seizure of property, at the suggestion of the Director West of the Special Purpose Staff it was proposed to the Reichsleiter that the furniture and other contents of the unguarded Jewish homes should also be secured and dispatched to the Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories, for use in the occupied Eastern Territories. The Fuehrer agreed to Reichsleiter Rosenberg's proposal by means of the letter of the Reich Minister and Chief of the Reich Chancery dated 31.12.51.

The Special Purpose Staff of Reichsleiter Rosenberg was charged with carrying out this task in the occupied territories. The amount of work to be done in this section forced the Special Purpose Staff of Reichsleiter Rosenberg to return the mandate of 14.1.1942 to the Minister for the Occupied Eastern

Territories so that this might be executed by him, owing to personnel difficulties.

The Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories thereupon organized the Office West on 25.3.42 in Paris with local branches in France, Belgium and Holland. The Director West of the Special Purpose Staff of Reichsleiter Rosenberg E.R.R. was appointed Chief of this Office.

At first all the confiscated furniture and goods were dispatched to administrations in the Occupied Eastern Territories. Owing to the terror attacks on German cities, which then began and in the knowledge that bombed-out people Germany ought to have preference over the Eastern people, Reich Minister and Reichsleiter Rosenberg obtained a new order from the Fuehrer according to which the furniture etc. obtained through the M.-Action was to be put at the disposal of bombed-out people within Germany.

H1134-0004

The confiscation of Jewish homes was carried out as follows, so-called confiscation officials went from house to house when no records were available of the addresses of Jews who had departed or fled, as was the case for instance in Paris, in order to collect information as to abandoned Jewish homes. They drew up inventories of these homes and subsequently sealed them. In order to avoid complaints, especially in case Aryan premises were sealed or homes of Jews who were not affected by the Action, the premises were usually left sealed for two or three months, and their contents were not taken away until that time had expired. In Paris alone about twenty confiscation officials confiscated more than 38 000 homes. The transportation of the contents of these homes was completed with the aid of the entire car park of the Union of Parisian Removal Contractors who had to provide every day up to 150 trucks with 1200 to 1500 French labourers.

The evacuations were divided into evacuations A and B. Evacuation A meant confiscation of all kinds of goods, but not furniture; evacuation B meant confiscation of actual furniture.

The goods are dispatched first to large collecting camps from where they are processed, sorted out, and loaded for Germany.

Owing to the scarcity of personnel in the Office West, acts of sabotage committed by the French labourers could not be prevented, but rather did they increase considerably. In order to overcome this difficulty, two large collection camps were set up and the SD provided 700 Jews. These workers were at the same time interned in the various camps. Up to that time the Office had no expert workers at their disposal, neither for loading, nor for repairing damaged furniture. When organizing so-called Jew Camps, work-shops were established for cabinet-makers, watchmakers, shoemakers, electricians, radio experts, furriers, etc. All incoming goods were thoroughly sorted out and those not ready for use were repaired. Moreover special boxes were dispatched for the use of special trades (tailors', locksmiths', plumbers', sanitary, medical boxes.) Only interned Jews were used for the sorting-out of the confiscated furniture and goods on a covered conveyor belt, and for the packing and loading. As a result of the experience acquired with regard to confiscation, working systems within the camps, and transportation, the Office West was able to reorganize their entire working system and with the small staff at their disposal succeed in providing for use in Germany even things which appeared to be valueless, such as scrap paper, rags, salvage etc. Unfortunately acts of sabotage could not be prevented despite the sharpest control in the camps. Sometimes even during the transport, acts of sabotage were committed by French, Belgian and Dutch railway officials, so that loads which had been correctly packed and loaded and which had been accepted by the respective representatives of districts and towns often arrived in an extremely damaged condition. These acts would have assumed even greater dimensions had not the German State Railways, whose bombed out officials were among the people supplied by the Office West, risen to the occasion splendidly and helped the workers of the Office West with a great number of specialized personnel.

Altogether the Office West including the special purpose branches was confiscated about 71 619 Jewish homes. Moreover they took through Evacuation A:

Foreign currency and securities:	11 695 516 RM
Scrap metal, scrap paper, textiles	3 191 352 kg.

which were dispatched to the competent German authorities for further use. The goods dispatched to the Districts (Gaue) and Towns are listed in the following specification:

H1134 - 0005

District: (Gau)	Town:	Number of wagons: 1942/1943	1944	Together Town	District
Baden	Karlsruhe	481		481	
	Mannheim	326	82	408	
	Strassburg		50	50	939

(follows specification, cp.pp.4 & 5
p.5
altogether
Wagons 18.665

Deliveries to German Camps

(follows specification, p.5)
Wagons 8.191

Deliveries to S.S. Divisions and others

	1942/43	1944	
S. S. Division and several private orders	160	417	577
German State Railways	904	672	1,576
German Postal Service		196	196
Police	65	166	231

Grand Total Wagons: 29.436

= 736 trains of 40 waggons.

The personnel of the Office West of the Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories consisted of on an average:

82 male and
30 female officials and employees.

"DRK Oberstfuehrer"
Director of the Office West

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. L-188

5 November 1945.

I, EVELYN GLAZIER, 37371, Petty Officer W.R.N.S., hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages, and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. L-188.

EVELYN GLAZIER
37371, Petty Officer
W.R.N.S.

H1134 - 0006

Exhibit USA. 387
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 015-PS
Office of U.S. Chief of Counsel

16 April 1943

673/R/Ma

Mr Fuehrer !

In my desire to give you, my Fuehrer, some joy for your birthday I take the liberty to present to you a folder containing photos of some of the most valuable paintings which my special purpose staff (Einsatzstab), in compliance with your order, secured from ownerless Jewish art collections in the occupied western territories. These photos represent an addition to the collection of 53 of the most valuable objects of art delivered some time ago to your collection. This folder also shows only a small percentage of the exceptional worth and extent of these objects of art, seized by my service command (Dienststelle) in France, and put into a safe place on the Reich.

I beg of you, my Fuehrer, to give me a chance during my next audience to report to you orally on the whole extent and scope of this art seizure action. I beg you to accept a short written intermediate report of the progress and extent of the art seizure action which will be used as a bisis for this later oral report, and also accept 3 copies of the temporary picture catalogues which, too, only show part of the collection you own. I shall deliver further catalogues which are now being compiled, when they are finished. I shall take the liberty during the requested audience to give you, my Fuehrer, another 20 folders of pictures, with the hope that this short occupation with the beautiful things of art which are nearest to your heart will send a ray of beauty and joy into your revered life.

Heil, my Fuehrer

Intermediate Report
of the Seizure of Ownerless Jewish Art Possessions, by the Special Purpose Staff (Einsatzstab) of Reichsleiter ROSENBERG in the Occupied Western Territories.

The seizure action began in compliance with the Fuehrer order of 17 Sept 1940. At first those art collections were seized which the Jews, fleeing from occupied territories, left behind in Paris. The seizure action was extended to all remaining cities and villages of the occupied French territory where it was thought that Jewish art collections might be hidden. By using all possible ways and means we discovered and seized all Jewish art collections which were hidden either in Jewish homes in Paris, in castles in the provinces or in warehouses and other storage places. The seizure action was in part very difficult and tedious and, up to now, not all completed. The escaped Jews knew how to camouflage the hiding places of these objects of art, and to find them was made more difficult by the Frenchmen originally charged with the administration of the hiding places. The special purpose staff (Einsatzstab) in connection with the security police (Sicherheitsdienst - SD), the squad for the protection of the foreign currency market (Devisenschutzkommando) and by using their own ingenutiy succeeded in securing the main part of art collections, left behind by the escaped Jews, and bringing it safely to the Reich. The most important part of the action was the securing of 79 collections of well-known Jewish art collectors in France. The list of collections is attached hereto. Top place on the list is taken by the famous collections of the Jewish family of ROTHSCHILD. The difficulty of the seizure action is shown by the fact that the ROTHSCHILD collections were distributed over various places in Paris, in Bordeaux and in the Loire castles of the ROTHSCHILDS, and could only be found after a long and tedious search. Although the action covered the past 2 years, we discovered and secured, through the use of trusted agents, quit e a large part of the ROTHSCHILD collection in 1942.

H1134 - 0008

Besides the seizure of these complete Jewish art collections, we also searched all vacant Jewish apartments in Paris and other places for single art objects which might have been left behind. The main job in this action was to ascertain all addresses of Jews, escaped from the occupied territories, since we had to overcome quite a few difficulties on the part of the French police force which naturally tried their best to retard our progress. During this search through hundreds of single Jewish apartments a large amount of art objects were secured.

These in this manner secured collections and single pieces of art were transferred to central collecting points in Paris, located in the so-called Jeu de Paume and rooms of the Louvre. The art expert of the special purpose staff inventories, photographed and packed all secured objects of art. Taking the inventory was made more difficult by the fact that all data pertaining to the collection were supressed by the former owners. For this reason each art object had to be examined separately for origin, place where found, and period. The work is so designed that at its conclusion the finished inventory will represent an unimpeachable document, as far as the historical background of the art collection is concerned. It will show, on one side, the monetary, and on the other, the historical value. The Jewish owners and collectors only judged these collections by their material value. Consequently they did not recognize the historical value and therefore showed no inclination to make these collections available for research. However, this research has now been accomplished by the sorely understaffed special purpose staff. All their findings were incorporated into 3 temporary books which will serve as basis for one catalogue, soon to be compiled.

During the time from 17 Sept 1940 to 7 April 1943, 10 transports of 92 cars or a total of 2775 crates were sent to Germany. The contents of the crates were: paintings, antique furniture, Gobelins, objects of art, etc. Besides all this another special transport of 53 art objects was shipped to the Fue hrerbau in Muenchen, and 594 pieces (paintings, plastics, furniture, textiles) delivered to Reichs Marshal (Goering).

Castle Neuschanstein was designated as the first shelter. After this castle was filled, the Bavarian administration for state-owned castles and parks saw fit to relinquish several rooms in the castle Herrenchiemsee for further shipments.

Since these 2 shelters were not enough and since the Bavarian administration could not supply any more we rented 2 more in the neighborhood; it was made possible through the intervention of the State Treasurer (Reichsschatzmeister). We rented several rooms in the former Salesianer monastery at Buxheim near Memmingen in Schwaben and the privately owned castle Kogl near Voecklabruck at Upper Danube (Oberdonau). The location and condition of these 2 shelters is such that they are perfect in regards to safety against air attack and fire, and can easily be guarded. All art objects are so divided between the 4 shelters that it is possible to continue the inventory and care, and that no large collections of valuable art objects will be concentrated in any one place. All measures for safety are taken care of by the combined efforts of 1) the Bavarian administration for castles and parks, 2) the central control of the fire prevention police, and 3) the local representatives of State and Party. In this way the highest degree of safety has been achieved.

9455 articles in the aforementioned shelters have been completely inventoried, as of 1 April 1943.

The inventory is as follows:

5255 Paintings
297 Sculptures
1372 Pieces antique furniture
307 Textiles
2224 Small objects of art, including East-Asiatic art

H1134-0009

The inventory in addition to records of seizure and lists of seizure and transport, follows the pattern of the enclosed file card (Karteikarte). On this file card is noted all information necessary to characterize all objects as to origin, master, technique, time, etc. These file cards together with the extended explanations of the men charged with taking the inventory constitute the basis for the editing of the master catalogue. Besides this there is in preparation a photo-library in one of the central offices in Berlin, as well as in Neuschwanstein. Since the number of technicians was small, the time short, and the necessity of a quick expert from Paris was paramount, only the most valuable objects were inventoried in Paris. Therefore the inventory has to be continued in the shelters. According to the latest count there are approximately 10,000 more objects to be inventoried.

At present there are 400 crates in Paris, ready for shipment which will be sent to the Reich as soon as necessary preliminary work in Paris is completed. Should the present 4 shelters not prove sufficient for consequent shipments, 2 more places, namely the castle Bruck near Linz and the camp Seisenegg near Amstetten on the lower Danube have been prepared.

For reasons of fire prevention all art objects in the shelters had to be unpacked skillfully. These measures were also necessary to accomplish the inventory and to continue with the care of the valuable art objects. Restoration has begun since many needed it when we acquired them. At present a repair shop with all necessary tools is being outfitted in Fuessen in which all paintings, pieces of furniture and other objects will be restored, to safeguard preservation. The unpacking, the continuation of the inventory, and the establishment of the photo-library, and too, the editing of the master catalogue, will take considerable time.

The action of seizure (Fassungaktion) in Paris and occupied Western territories will be continued, although on a reduced scale, since there are still new art objects of great value to be found. The administration of the East now only will seize furniture, but also the art objects which might yet be found there. Here too valuable art objects were found in the last months. These art objects, found during the collection of furniture, were also sent to the shelters and will recieve the same treatment as the others. Besides these objects, whose art value is established, hundreds of modern French paingings were seized which from the German standpoint are without value as far as the national-socialistic art perception is concerned. These works of modern French painters will be listed separately, for a later decision as to their disposition.

On orders from the Reichs Marshal some of the works of modern and degenerate French art were exchanged in Paris for paintings of known value. The exchange was of great advantage to us, since we received 87 works by Italian, Dutch and German masters who are known to be of great value. We shall continue to trade whenever a chance presents itself. At the completion of the action a proposal as to the disposition of the modern and degenerate French paintings will be presented.

Berlin, 16 April 1943

CERTIFICATE OF PARTIAL TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 015-PS

I, GERARD SCHAEFER, 2nd Lt Inf, O-1332102, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages: and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 015-PS.

H1134 - 0010

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 035-PS
OFFICE OF U.S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

S E C R E T

Berlin, 26October 1943

Short report
regarding security measures of Chief Labor Group Ukraine (Haupt=arbeitsgruppe Ukraine) during the withdrawal of the Armed Forces.

On 24 Sept 1943 a prohibited zone was created by a decree of the War Commander in the city of Kiev -, which runs some 3 km west of the Dnjepr. The whole civil population in this area, including non-military officials, had to abandon this zone as of 2100, 26 Sept1943. The office of the Special Purposes Staff (Einsatzstabes) on Rowno or Street#8 lies in the prohibited zone. The apartment house on Theaterstrasse#9 was evacuated and troops quartered within.

The removal of the materials on hand encountered extraordinary difficulties due to lack of loading space. However the transporting of the following was carried out:

24 Sept 43: Materials of the Museum of Art at Charkow.

Taken over by party member Pfeiffer from General Commissioner SHITOMIR for shipping by trucks to Reichs Commissioner Ukraine (RKU) in Rowno.
96 Ukrainian paintings.
185 Western European paintings.
12 wood carvings and etchings.
25 carpets and tapestries.

The inventory and files of those objects are in the hand of the staff leaders. The Reich Commissio=ner kept a copy of the inventory.

26 Sept 43: Materials of HAG (Hauptarbdtsgruppe - Chief Labor Group)

The document-house library, utensils, office sup=plies and the administration were loaded in a freight car by 13 native workers for Truskawiec under the supervision of Special Purpose Staff Director FUCHS.

27 Sept 43 Materials of the Department of Seizure(Abteilung Erfassung)

This shipment went to Ratibor and contained
42 cases - 10,186 books
7 cases - total catalog of the East Library
21 cases - selected publications
12 cases - art folios
11 packages of samples of magazines
9 crates and)
7 rolls) Bolshevist pictures
22 crates Bolshevist films
Several cases of negatives and positives from the photoarchive, dispositives and slides, materials of Special Purpose Commandant Dr. HUETTIG of the Special Purpose Staff "Science"
1 case of Bolshevist data in German and others.

H1134-0011

1 Oct. 43: Materials of the Ukrainian Museum in Kiev.

On the basis of the General evacuation orders of the city commissioner the following were sorted out by us and load for shipment to Krakau.

Textiles of all sorts
Collections of valuable embroidery patterns
Collections of brocades
Numerous items of wood, etc.

Moreover an essential part of the prehistoric Museum was transported away,

Since already on the 20 Sept the head of the provincial administration of libraries, museums and archives, Dr. Winters, had requested his assignment to the Special Purposes Staff. Because of the evacuation of the civil administration, he left the city on 25 Sept on the basis of the general evacuation order. Dr. Winter turned over to the leader of the Chief Labor Group (H.G) a list of the articles under his protection in case the Special Purpose Staff (Einsatzstab) remained longer in Kiev and would also take charge of these materials. Dr. Winter could only send 2 freight cars of material into the interior. Shortly before his departure Dr. Winter had turned over by a transfer document to the city commissioner the administration of the materials entrusted to him. The latter had charged Prof. Dr. MANSFELD with as complet an evacuation of these articles as possible. Since Prof. Dr. MANSFELD knew little about the articles, he requested support from the Special Purpose Staff of Reichsleiter ROSENBERG. On 1 Oct it was possible to load 2 freight cars with museum goods, but under great difficulty. Since labor was unobtainable all the members still in Kiev on the Special Purpose Staff of Reichsleiter ROSENBERG undertook the loading themselves.

The activity in Kiev became more difficult since the German artillery stands in the center of the city and from there fires its salvoes toward the East bank.

Through the military measures the salvage work was carried out, under ever-increasing difficulties. At the request of Prof. Dr. MANSFELD 2-3 collaborators were assigned to him for the evacuation of the articles and institutes which up to now had been under the civil administration.

Since the remaining in Kievof all members of the Chief Labor Group Ukraine was impossible the leader of the Chief Labor Group H.G had come to an agreement by the 8 Oct with G-2 (Ic) on the following points concerning the division in that area.

1) The Special Purposes Staff of Reichsleiter ROSENBERG's Chief Labor Group Ukraine will leave behind a detachment of 5 men for security and safety of the cultural articles in the off-limits zone of the city of Kiev.

2) The remaining detachment will at the request of the infantry division(I.D.) and at the command of the 7th Army Corps (7A.K.) work in close cooperation with the G-2 (Ic) of the infantry division (I.D.)

H1134 - 0012

3) The infantry division (I.D.) is prepared to take care of the detachment and provide each member with corresponding identification papers and thereby guarantee the utmost protection possible in the prohibited zone.

4) At the request of G-2 (Ic) of the Infantry Division (ID) the particular detachments were to take over tasks which lay in the competence of the Armed Forces.

5) The Infantry Division(ID) places great value on further evacuation of precious articles. Since this battle zone can in no case be protected sufficiently by the army. One may even count on artillery shells falling at any time. Army installations, means of transportation, etc., should be provided by the Infantry Division, if possible.

Of course it was the duty of the Chief Labor Group Ukraine (HAG) to hold out in Kiev as long as possible, until it was rendered impossible by the military situation.

All members of the Chief Labor Group (HAG) have worked in harmony and with strong interest to insure the safety and evacuation of the most precious cultural goods. At the loading they lent a hand in order to complete the loading work in the few hours remaining.

The remaining of the Chief Labor Group (HAG) and its work has greatly impressed G-2 and the Division. The intention that the remaining detachment would leave Kiev at the last possible moment met with strong approval. This last movement was defined by the army as the one on which the remaining detachment would be "bombed out of office."

On 5 Oct 1943 the leader of the Chief Labor Group departed from Kiev with his staff except those selected for the remaining detachment in order to continue leading the work of the Chief Labor Group of Ukraine (HAG) from Truskavice.

signed: UTIKAL

H1134 - 0013

The Staff Directory
(Stabsfuehrung)
Referee East

Berlin 21 Oct 1943
II b/Dr.Z./Z/

hand-written notation /Miss Girschberg /for final copy to Reich /Directorate, Staff /Director, Subordinate Leaders, etc.

Memorandum for the Reich Leader

Subject: Evacuation of the Office (Dienststelle) at Kiev.

As you all know the Chief Labor Office Group Ukraine (HAG) of the Special Purposes Staff had to, for the time being shift its offices (Dienstsitz) to Truskaviec near Drobobycz 90km South of Lemberg. This shifting was accomplished without any friction. A remaining detachment was left behind in the prohibited zone in Kiev. This remaining detachment still protects the cultural goods which lie in the battle zone insofar as their salvage has not been carried out. Numerous cultural goods were saved in the last hour by the Special Purposes Staff before the destruction through enemy action, aided by the strenuous work of the staff members as a whole. The following items were shipped:

1) 24 Sept 43: Materials from the Charkow Art Museum.

Taken over by party member (Pg.) PFEIFFER from General Commissioner SHITOMIR to be transported by trucks (LKW) to Reich Commissioner Ukraine in Rowno.

96 Ukrainian paintings
183 Western European paintings
12 wood carvings and etchings
25 carpets and tapestry

The files and inventory of these objects are in the hands of the staff leaders (Stabsfuehrung). The Reich Commissioner kept a copy of the inventory.

2) 26 Sept 43: Materials of the Chief Labor Group (HAG)

The documents, house library, utensils, office supplies, private luggage, and the supplies of the administration were loaded in a freight car by 13 native workers for Truskaviec under the supervision of Special Purposes Staff Director FUCHS.

3) 27 Sept 43: Materials of the Department of Seizure (Abt. Erfassung.)

This shipment went to Ratibor and contained:
42 chests - 10,186 books, East library (OBR)
7 chest - Total catalog of the East library (OBR)
1 chest - books for the higher school
21 chests - selected publications
12 (?) chests - art folios
11 packages of model samples of magazines
9 crates
7 rolls (Bolshevist pictures)
22 frames (Vorschlaege) Bolshevist films

H1134-0014

Several chests of negatives and positives from the photo-archives, dispositives and slides, material of Special Purpose Commandant, Dr. HUETTIG of the Special Purpose Staff "Science".
1 chest of Bolshevist data in Germany and others

4) 27 Sept 43: Material of the Prehistoric Museum.

Independently from the work of the Special Purposes Staffof Prehistoric History had packed and shipped to Krakau the most important items of the Prehistoric Museum.

5) 1 Oct 43: Materials of the Ukrainian Museum in Kiev.

On the basis of the general evacuation orders of the city commissioner the following were sorted out by us and loaded for shipment to Krakau:

Textiles of all kinds (clothes, blouses, shirts, coats, overcoats, etc.)
Collection of valuable embroidery patterns
Collections of brocades
Collection of Ukrainian easter eggs
Numerous items of wood, etc.

6) 1 Oct 43: Materials of the Prehistoric Museum.

In a second inspection party member (Pg.) Prof. Dr. STAMPFUSS with the help of several collaborators gathered another collection of prehistoric articles and also shipped it to Krakau.

When the civil administration left Kiev the head of the provincial administration for archives, libraries, and museums, Dr. WINTER and his helper Dr. BENZING, again joined the Special Purposes Staff on 20 Sept. However these two gentlemen also left Kiev on 25 Sept. The Special Purpose Staff did then undertake again its original task of protecting the cultural articles and goods. Though the personnel has been decreased materially in the course of the development of the situation, it was then arranged that right up to the last minute one group of workers capable of action remained in Kiev for the carrying out of the final tasks. The Special Purpose Staff in the last German office which remains in the dead zone of Kiev. Its remaining and its assistance to the G-2 (Ic) of the combat division involved has made a strong impression on the army. We were permitted to remain in the fighting zone up until the point when we would be bombed out of the office.

This successful work was in the main due to the devotion to duty and to personal inspiration of the Chief of the Special Purposes Staff ANTON, but also due to the unselfish performance of duty of his other co-workers.

signed: Dr. ZEISS
Chief of the Special Purposes Staff.

H1134-0015

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 035-PS

I, GERARD SCHAEFER, 2nd Lt. Inf., 0-1332102, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 035-PS.

GERARD SCHAEFER
2nd Lt. Inf.
0-1332102

H1134 - 0016

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 065 PS
OFFICE OF U.S.CHIEF OF COUNSEL

German Reichs Ministry for the Occupied Regions of the East Director of Group P 4

Berlin, 12 Sept 1944
Prinz Louis Ferdinand Str.
Received. Bau 9/12

P 4/394 g/44g
Department: Counsel

DECREE

SECRET
(rubber stamp)

1) To the
Chief of the Political Directorate Staff
In the Building

Subject: Presentation of a list of works of art which have been shipped back from the Ukraine.

The Reichs Commissar for the Ukraine has stored the works of art and paintings shipped in from Kiev and Charkow, in the following storage places in East Prussia:

1. Domain Pichau bei Pohlau
2. Manor House Wildenhoff (Owner Count Schwerin).

Concerned are 65 chests whose contents will be given completely in the enclosure. There is as yet no inventory of some further 20 chests, 57 folios and one role of engravings. There are a great many of the oldest icons, works of famous masters of the German, Dutch and Italian schools of the 14th, 17th and 18th centuries, as well as works of the best Russian artists of the 18th and 19th centuries. On the whole the contents include the most valuable works of the known Ukrainian art possession, which in themselves represent a value of many millions after a cursory appraisal. Beyond that they have a high ethical and cultural-political meaning as the only collections of this sort in the German orbit with international route with which the Reich wishes to carry out a collaboration at present or in the future.

In accordance with the ordinance of the Reichs Chancellery of 13 Nov 1940 - Rk. 15 666 B (enclosure 2) it appears necessary to submit a list of the contents to the Fuehrer. I request your signature on the proposed list which is enclosed.

2) Disseminate immediately.

(Copies for signature were presented in pencil (to Ministry and Chancellery of party on 15 Sept 1944.

Sv. 9/15

German Reichs Ministry for the Occupied Regions of the East
Director of Group P 4
P 394a/44

Berlin, 14 Sept 1944
Prinz Louis Ferdinand-str. 2
Phone: 16 40 61
Received: Bau 14.9.44
Rubber stamp SECRET

DECREE

1) To the
Reichs Minister

H1134-0017

Via
Chief of the Political Directorate Staff
In the Building

Subject: Works of art shipped back from Ukraine.

The Reichs Commissar for the Ukraine has stored the works of art and paintings shipped in from Kiev and Charkow in the following storage places in East Prussia:

1. Domain Richau bei Mehlau
2. Manor House Wildenhoff (Owner Count Schwerin).

Concerned are 65 chests whose contents will be given completely in the enclosure. There is as yet no inventory of some further 20 chests, 57 folios and one role of engravings. There are great many of the oldest icons, works of famous masters of the German, Dutch and Italian schools of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, as well as works of the best Russian artists of the 18th and 19th centuries. On the whole the contents include the most valuable works of the known Ukrainian art possession, which in themselves represent a value of many millions after a cursory appraisal. Beyond that they have a high ethic and cultural-political meaning as the only collections of this sort in the German orbit with international repute with which the Reich wishes to carry out a collaboration at present or in the future.

I request an acknowledgement.

In accordance with the decree of the Reichs Chancellery of 13 Nov 1940 - Rk. 15 865 B- a list of the contents was presented to the Fuehrer.

2) Dissominate.

initialed: Us 14/9

September 1944
16 45 61

received Bau 14.9.44

The Chief of the Political Directorate Staff

D I C R E E

F 394a/44g

rubber stamp: SECRET

1) To the Reichs Chancellery
(1) Berlin W 8
Wilhelmstr.

Re: Reservation for the Fuehrer (Fuehrervorbehalt) of works of art from the occupied territories of the East.

According to an expression of the Fuehrer's will (communication to the Director of the Gallery of Paintings in Dresden - File number: Rk 10 311 B) it is required to report all treasures of art which have been shipped back from the occupied territories of the East. I submit, therefore, in the enclosure a list of the items from the museums of Kiev and Charkow which are at present stored in East Prussia with a request for acknowledgement.

2) Dissominate.

By direction.

Us 9/14

H1134 - 0018

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 055 PS

15 August 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd LT Inf. 0-1555567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of document No. 055 PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
0-1555567

H1134 - 0019

Exhibit U.S.a. 371
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 071-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHEIF OF COUNSEL

23 April 1941
4609/R/Na

To
Reich Director (Reichsleiter) Bormann
at present at Fuehrer's Headquarters

Dear party member Bormann !

I cannot agree with your letter of the 19th inst.,since some misunderstandings occurred therein.

1 - The clause concerning confiscations to be undertaken in Reich territory is doubtless a regulation which has not yet been introduced, and directly because of this I have asked you to propose such a regulation to the Fuehrer.The proposal originated in a decree of the Fuehrer relative to the work of the higher institutes of learning whereby the question of research institutes and library were given priority and the official bureaus of the Party and the state were instructed to support me in this work.Now it is clear that the philisophical opponents of the regime (this is especially true in the case of the recently confiscated religious archives) are concealing a quantity of the things which are of priceless,perhaps of irreplaceable, value for the later research of the higher institutes of learning. Because an actual necessity seems to be present, I wish to make the already cited proposal.It is understood that the confiscations are not executed by the regional authorities (Gauleitungen) but that this is conducted by the Security Service (SD) as well as by the police.Scientific work can only be done of course after the confiscation by the police, but here- and this is decesive - all must decide what is necessary for police compilations (actual correspondence with philosophical opponents and other material) and what does not fall under the competency of the police, but under the research work done by seminary, that is the Reich direction (Reichsleiter) of the Nazi Party.The taking of an office by Gruppenfuehrer (US Army equivalent Major General) HEYDRICH is only to be considered as much, not as a binding engagement.I therefore have decided on the proposal besause it has been communicated to me in writing by a Gauleiter,that the chief office of the Reich Security (Reichssicherheitshauptamt) of the SS has claimed the following from the library of a monastery: The Catholic Handbook,Albertus Magnus; Edition of the Church Fathers; History of the Papacy by L.v.Pastor and other works. That means that already historical sources and works are being claimed for the Police from the monastery libraries of the districts (Gaue) which must remain reserved uniquely for the work of the Reich direction (Reichsleitung) of the Nazi Party respectively the state research places.These aspects have already been discussed thoroughly in the question of confiscated property in occupied areas.I have transmitted to you a photocopy of my convention with the Security Service (SD) which was reached with the express approval of Gruppenfuehrer HEYDRICH. I would like also to mention that this work has been executed in accordance with the agreement and always in a loyal fashion (with the exception of a case in Holland which I hope will be likewise solved in the same way). Photocopies and written copies should be made available to me of all material which the police has rightly confiscated for their political police purposes, but which, according to its nature,must also be appropriated for a later research value.In my view there exists in itself no fundamental difficulty if both sides adopt the viewpoint of being loyal on their own and to the missions of the Partner.I request once more special effort to prevent that valuable writings are arbitrarily extracted from the libraries in various districts by the Chief Office of Reich Security (Reichssicherheitshauptamt) or other police service offices.On this

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 071-PS
CONT'D

account I propose the regulation that all confiscations remain under the full powers (Oberhoheit) of the district leader (Gauleiter) and be examined by my deputies in case later research value in the respective district itself appears possible.

2 - There is a great misunderstanding with respect to what is involved in the question of the south-east and the employment of my administrative staff: art objects have always been treated as a second line problem. In the first line an order of the chief of the high command of the Armed Forces (OKW) on the instance of the Fuehrer has gone twice to the occupied territories of the west to place all scientific and archive materials of world philosophy opponents of the regime (Weltanschaulicher Gegner) at my disposal for research purposes. That has resulted also in close cooperation on the widest scale with the Security Service (SD) and the military commanders, and I believe that I have secured priceless research pieces for the Reich direction (Reichsleitung) of the Nazi party and its higher institutes of learning. I wish to inform you especially that as many as 7000 crates have been brought to Germany up to the present moment. In the course of these confiscations we have found according to the nature of the case other valuable cultural objects including very valuable works of art. And in order that these things should not be dispersed and that they be secured for the Fuehrer, the Chief of the high command of the armed forces (OKW) on my request and on the instance of the Fuehrer has ordered that these art objects should be catalogued by me. I ask you that if necessary it should be established for the benefit of the Reich Marshal that my working staff has executed these tasks in a correct fashion and in an objective blameless form. Art objects generally do not come into question as far as the Balkans are concerned although there are Free-Masonry archives and Jewish libraries and other relevant research objects. In my opinion only the same attitude as that prevailing in occupied French territory can be taken and what I requested, was really only an expansion of an already existing regulation. For with General Field Marshal List, and likewise with the General Quartermaster of the Army the work has already been begun and my men are already at work with these circles in Belgrade. And on command of General Field Marshal List as well as of his deputy general, these men will also be employed in closest relationship with Security Service (SD) in Salonika. As you know, Salonika is one of the largest Jewish centers.

I should like to remark in this connection that this affair has already been executed on our side with Security Service (SD) in the most loyal fashion. One of our collaborators who also belongs to the Security Service (SD), had his duty-obligation countermanded by the Security Service, whereupon it was impressed upon him that the Security Service cooperates with my administrative staff in a most loyal fashion. The things are thus clarified in a practical fashion and the work has taken its course. What I asked was only a confirmation that the already pronounced decisions for the West should also have validity under the given circumstances for other occupied or to be occupied areas. Finally the representative of the Fuehrer has expressly ordered that the appropriate party members in this question should be placed so as not to permit this unique opportunity for inquiry in the Jewish and Masonic lodge question to pass away. The agreement on this matter is thus general.

H1134 - 0020

H1134 - 0021

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 071- PS
CONT'D

I trust that this letter has cleared up the resulting misunderstandings.

Heil Hitler !

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 071-PS

16 August 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, 0-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages;and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 071- PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
0 - 1335567.

Exhibit USA-372
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 090-PS
OFFICE OF US CHIEF OF COUNSEL

18 September 1940
2474/R/Dt.

S E C R E T !

(Initials) Sch.

To the
Reich Treasurer of the NSDAP
Reich Director F.X. SCHWARZ,
Munich 33.

Dear Party Member Schwarz,

Thanks for your helpfulness in regard to the safeguarding of scientific materials in the occupied territories. I deduce from this that you are interested in this work and would therefore like to inform you about several matters.

I took some time until we found by and by the several treasures, and until we could ascertain that a lot had been abducted from Paris into other towns. Thus the treasured of the Rothschilds, ro bbed together from all parts of the world, are being secured by us not only in Paris but also in the various castles of the Rothschilds (Bordeaux, Deauville and so on). Legal doubts arose and I have discussed them with the Fuehrer. Subsequently he caused a new order to be issued by the Chief of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces which I enclose in duplicate. Thus the Seminary (Hohe Schule) will still receive a Polish library of 130,000 volumes. This will include the complete history of the East, probably a large Slavic library and many other items. Together with a lot of scientific material many extremely valuable objects of art have been found in cases at the residence of the Rothschilds. This has been secured and the Fuehrer will decide at a later date as to the final disposal.

In Brussels and Amsterdam we are on the track of valuable objects too. I believe that we shall be able to bring quite some material from there to Germany.

You see that we are industrially endeavoring to exploit the present moment. Such an opportunity will hardly present itself again. I am trying to keep the Staff for Special Purposes down to a minimum. Nevertheless it is unavoidable that a number of experts have to work at various places. And the work takes longer than was anticipated in the beginning.

Once more many thanks. If I should come to Munich in the near future I hope to meet you.

Heil Hitler!

28January 1941
3581/R/dt
(Initials) Sch

To:The Reich Treasurer of the NSDAP
Reich Director F.X. SCHWARZ Munich 33

Subject: Staff for Special Purposes in Paris

Dear Party Member Schwarz,

About the work of my Staff for Special Purposes in France, Holland and Belgium I can inform you that the major part of the work in France will be finished by the end of February. Then only a few men have to remain in Paris.-- However, in Belgium and Holland extensivesresearch work has still tobe carried out. I hope nevertheless to wind upthe main

H1134 - 0023

part of the work there within a measurable space of time. The arrangement and registration of the large art treasures claimed a lot of special work. I had these treasures confiscated simultansously with the scientific material. The Fuehrer is going to decide what to do with them shortly. As I informed you previously the values involved will come close to a billion dollars according to expert estimates.

I told you already verbally that the largest Jewish library of the world, consisting of 350,000 volumes, will be placed in the institution which is going to be opened at Frankfurt on the Main within a short time. Another 200,000 volumes will be added from Holland.

The library of the IInd International about the history of the social movements cannot be transferred for the moment to Germany due to lack of space. Two will have to take charge of it in Amsterdam where scientific work can start immediately. This library consists of 130,000 volumes.

The account of the expenditures up till now will be submitted to your deputy by the administrative branch of my office. However, I have to request that you put another amount of 100,000 Reichsmark at my disposal so that I can complete the work satisfactorily. At the same time I propose once more that you have parts of those sums reimbursed - be it from the Reich Marshal or from the Fuehrer's funds for cultural purposes. There is no doubt that I also have accured treasures which will not benefit the Seminary directly.

Once more I want to express my deepest thanks for letting us have the Schrenck-Notzing-Palais in Munich for our coming institution. Prof. Harder, the future director of this institution, is extremely pleased with it and will soon get in touch with your deputy.

A depiction of the situation regarding the branch offices of the Seminary in the various cities is just being completed and will be submitted to you within a short time.

Once more many thanks for your generous support.

Heil Hitler

Yours

SYNOPSIS

Letter of 22 May 1941, 4592/4863/R/Ma (in pencil) Sch

To the Reich Treasurer of the NSDAP,
Mr Reich Director SCHWARZ, Munich 33.

Written by ROSENBERG

Letter of 9 May 1941, K IV/te. 4363 R. Initialed Sch

To the Deputy of the Fuehrer for the supervision of the complete mental and doctrinal (Weltanschaulich) education of the NSDAP
Mr Reich Director Alfred Rosenberg, Berlin W 35, 17 Margareten Str.

Written and signed by the Reich Treasurer of the Party SCHWARZ.

Letter 19 April 1941 from the Office for Jewish and Masonic Problems, Frankfurt on the Main, 1 Schwindstrasse; Schi/Fl.

To the Deputy of the Fuehrer for the supervision of the complete mental and doctrinal training and education of the NSDAP, attention Adjutant, Berlin W 35, 17 Margaretenstr., Party member KÖPPEN.

Written by Chief Reich Director (Oberreichsleiter) SCHLMNER and signed by him.

Letter of 3 April 1941, K IV/kr.

To the Deputy of the Fuehrer for the supervision of the complete mental and doctrinal education of the NSDAP, Mr Reich Director Alfred Rosenberg, Berlin W 35, 17 Margareten Str.

Written and signed by the Reich Treasurer of the Party SCHWARZ.

Copy of a letter of 28 March 1941, from the Reich Commissar for the occupied territories of the Netherlands, General Commissar for Special Purposes, Section ro. international organizations, Don Haag, Fluweelen Burgwal 22; SCH/R.

To Mr F J M REHSE, Munich 2 M, 1 Residenzstrasse (residence)

Written by SCHMIER, authenticated by KRATZER.

Copy of a letter from NSDAP, Collection FJM REHSE, 2 April 1941, Munich, 1 Residenzstr.

To the Reich Treasurer SCHWARZ, Munich, Administration Building

Written by F J M REHSE, Authenticated by REIGL

The five previously enumerated letters all deal with the request of party member REHSE to obtain the furnishings, parophenalia and books of a masonic lodge for the party collection REHSE. This was finally granted in the letter of 22 May 1941 by Rosenberg.

11 June 1942
R/K. 1035/42

To the
Reich Treasurer of the NSDAP
Reich Director Franz Xavier SCHWARZ
Munich 33

Dear Party MemberSCHWARZ,

The work of my staff for special purposes has been hampered through lack of personnel. Nevertheless, tthe tabulating of the cultural objects secured from France has progressed so far that an exhibition of selected paintings can be arranged in the castle Neuschwanstein. The overall catalogue will be ready for typesetting in a few weeks. I would enjoy it tremendously if the two of us could be the first ones to visit this exhibition. We could then decide which objects and tapestries to suggest to the Fuehrer to be used for the furnishing of the Seminary (Hohe Schule) respectively of my office. The Fuehrer will hardly be able to visit the exhibition due to the fact that he is presently overburdened with work. However I shall ask him later to visit it and shall inform you when the Fuehrer will be able to come.

Once more I thank you for your generous support extended to my staff for special purposes. I am convinced that a large number of most valuable cultural objects have been secured for the German people.

H1134 - 0025

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 090-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL
(Cont.)

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 090-PS

12 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, 0-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 090-PS

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf.
1335567

Exhibit U.S.A. 367
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134 - 0026

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 136-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

COPY

Information to all Sections of Party and State.

The "Hohe Schule" is supposed to become the center for nationalsocilistic ideoligical and educational research. It will be established after the conclusion of the war. I order that the already initiated preparations be continued by Reichsleiter Rosenberg, especially in the way of research and the setting up of the library.

All sections of party and State are requested to cooperate with him in this task.

(signed) ADOLF HITLER.

Berlin, 29 January 1940

Certiied a true copy
Berlin 15 Dec 1943
Dr. Zeiss
Stabseinsatzfuehrer

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 136-PS

14 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL 2nd Lt. Inf, O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No 136-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt. Inf
O-1335567

H1134 - 0027

Exhibit U.S.A. 379
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 137-PS
OFFICE OF U. S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Chief of the High Command of the Armed Forces
No. 2850/40 secret Adj. Chief OKW

(Please indicate above file number, the date and
short contents in the answer)

Berlin W 35, 5 July 1940
Tirpitzufer 72-76
Telephone: Local 218191
Long distance 218091

To the Supreme Commander of the Army,
the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces in Holland.

Reichsleiter Rosenberg has requested from the Fuehrer to have:

1) The State libraries and archives searched for documents (Schriften) which are valuable for Germany.

2) The chanceries of the high church authorities and lodges searched for political activities which are directed against us, and to have the material in question confiscated.

The Fuehrer has ordered that this plan should be complied with and that the Secret State police - supported by the keepers of the archives of Reichsleiter Rosenberg - should be entrusted with the research. The Chief of the Security Police, SS Lt. General Heydrich, has been notified; he will get in touch with the responsible military commanders to carry out this order.

This measure should be carried out in all the territories of Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France which are occupied by us.

It is requested that the subordinate agencies should be notified.

The Chief of the Supreme Command
of the Armed Forces.

(Signed) KEITEL

To Reich leader Rosenberg
Copy for information
(Signed) Illegible

Captain (Rittmeister) and executive officer.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 137-PS

I, Willard E. Skidmore, Lt. (jg), USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages, and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 137-PS.

Willard E. Skidmore
Lt. (jg), USNR
391590

H1134 - 0028

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT NO. 138-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

C O P Y

The Chief of the Supreme Command
of the Armed Forces

Berlin W 35, 17 Sept 1940
Tirpitzufer 72-76
Tel: 21 81 91

2 f 28.14 W.Z. No. 3812/40 g

TO the
Chief of Army High Command for the Military Administration
in Occupied France.

In supplement to the order of the Fuehrer transmitted at the time to Reichsleiter ROSENBERG to search lodges, libraries and archives of the occupied territories of the west for material valuable to Germany, and to safeguard the latter through the Gestapo, the Fuehrer has decided:

The ownership status before the war in France, prior to the declaration of war on 1 September 1939, shall be the criterion.

Ownership transfers to the French state or similar transfers completed after this date are irrelevant and legally invalid (for example, Polish and Slovak libraries in Paris, possessions of the Palais ROTHSCHILD or other ownerless Jewish possessions). Reservations regarding search, seizure and transportation to Germany on the basis of the above reasons will not be recognized.

Reichsleiter ROSENBERG and/ or his deputy Reichshauptsellenleiter EBERT has received clear instructions from the Fuehrer personally governing the right of seizure; he is entitled to transport to Germany cultural goods which appear valuable to him and to safeguard them there. The Fuehrer has reserved for himself the decision as to their use.

It is requested that the services in question be informed correspondingly.

signed: KEITEL

For information:
Attention: Reichsleiter ROSENBERG

certified true copy
Berlin 15 December 43
(Dr Zeiss

Rosenberg special
purpose staff seal

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 138-PS

11 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt, Inf, O-1335567 hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 138-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt, Inf
O-1335567

H1134 – 0029

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 139 PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Copy/

SUPREME COMMAND OF THE ARMED FORCES

A2 2 f 23 J (Ia).

No. 1838/40 g.

BERLIN W 35, 10 October 1940.
Tirpitzufer 72 - 76
Tel: Local Service 21 81 91
Long Distance 21 80 91

Reference: Chief Supreme Command Armed Forces
No. 3812/40 g WZ of 17 September 1940.

TO:- Supreme Army High Commander.

As supplement to the above-mentioned letter, addressed to the Military Administration of Occupied France, it is requested that corresponding directions be given also to the Military Administration in Belgium.,

Chief of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces

By Order

signed: REINECKE

For Information:

Attention Reichsleiter ROSENBERG's Adjutant.

Reference: 2303/42.

Rosenberg's special purpose staff seal.

Certified true copy
Berlin 15 December 1943
(Dr. Zeiss)
Chief special purpose Staff.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 139 PS

---

11 November, 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt. Inf., O-155 55 37, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of the Document No. 139 PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL

2nd Lt. Inf.,
O-155 55 37

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 140-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

C O P Y

Supreme Command of the
Armed Forces
Az.Zf.285 (G-3)
Nr. 1838/40

Berlin W 35, 30 Oct 1940
Tirpitzufer 72-76
Tel. local- 218191
long distance 218091

S E C R E T

To:
The Armed Forces Commander in the Netherlands

In supplement to the order of the Fuehrer transmitted, under Nr 2850/40 secret Adj. Chief of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces, of 5.7.1940, to Reichsleiter Rosenberg, to search lodges, libraries and archives of the occupied territories of the West, for material valuable to Germany, and to safeguard the latter through the Gestapo, the Fuehrer has decided:

The ownership status before the war in France, prior to the declaration of war on 1 Sept 1939, shall be the criterion.

Ownership transfers to the French state or similar transfers completed after this date are irrelevant and legally invalid (for example, Polish and Slovak libraries in Paris, possessions of the Palais Rothschild or other ownerless Jewish possessions). Reservations regarding search, seizure and transportation to Germany on the basis of the above reasons will not be recognized.

Reichsleiter Rosenberg and/or his deputy Reichshauptstellenleiter EBERT has received clear instructions from the Fuehrer personally governing the right of seizure, he is entitled to transport to Germany cultural goods which appear valuable to him and to safeguard them there. The Fuehrer has reserved for himself the decision as to their use.

It is requested that the services in question be informed correspondingly.

The Chief of the Supreme Command
of the Armed Forces.
By order
signed: REINECKE

For information:
Attention Adj of Reichleiter
Rosenberg
Re Nr 2606/Ma
signed Reinecke

Rosenberg's
Special Purpose Staff
SEAL

Certified a true copy
Berlin 15 Dec 1943
(Dr Zeiss)
Chief of special purpose staff

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 140-PS

23 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No 140-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
O-1335567

H1134-0030

Exhibit U.S.A. 368
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 141-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

In conveying the measures taken until now, for the securing of Jewish art property by the Chief of the Military administration Paris and the special service staff Rosenberg (The Chief of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces 2 f 28.14.W.Z.Nr 3812/40 g), the art objects brought to the Louvre will be disposed of in the following way:

1) Those art objects about which the Fuehrer has reserved for himself the decision as to their use,

2) Those art objects which serve to the completion of the Reichs Marshal's collection,

3) Those art objects and library stocks the use of which seem useful to the establishing of the higher institutes of learning and which come within the jurisdiction of Reichsleiter Rosenberg,

4) Those art objects that are suited to be sent to German museums,

of all these art objects a systematic inventory will be made by the special purpose staff Rosenberg; they will then be packed and shipped to Germany with the assistance of the Luftwaffe.

5) Those art objects that are suited to be given to French museums or which might be of use for the German-French art trade, will be auctioned off at a date yet to be fixed. The profit of this auction will be given to the French State for the benefit of those bereaved by the war.

6) The further securing of Jewish art property in France willbe continued by the special purpose staff Rosenberg in the same way as heretofore in cooperation with the Chief of the military administration Paris.

Paris, 5 November 1940

I will submit this proposal to the Fuehrer. These instructions are in effect until he has reached a decision.

signed: GOERING

Certified true copy:
Berlin 15 Dec 1943
(Dr Zeiss)
Chief of special purpose staff

Rosenberg's special purpose staff seal

IDENTIFICATION OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 141-PS

I, Fred Niebergall, 2nd Lt Inf, O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of the indicated excerpt from Document 141-PS, made under my supervision by Wolfgang E. Thormann, M/Sgt, 38779426.

Fred Niebergall
2nd Lt Inf
O-1335567

H1134 - 0031

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 144-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF COUNSEL

Illegible pencil notes 8 July 1943

Chief of the Supreme Command
Armed Forces (OKW)

SECRET

Armed Forces General Staff (WEST)

Organisation (II) No. 02938/43 Secret

Rubber stamps with illegible notes

2 2 3 5
Ref. 2105

Subject: Manpower for Coal mining.

For the execution of the enlarged iron and steel program, the Fuehrer has ordered on 7 July the absolute guaranty of the necessary coal production and for that purpose, he has ordered to cover the reguirements for manpower with prisoners of war.

The Fuehrer demands, that the measures, described below, will be able finally to add 300 000 additional workers to the coal mining industry.

1. Of the Soviet Prisoners of war in our hands - with the exception of those of Finland, Norway and those, who are employed in T/O positions by the troops.-

200 000 prisoners of war

fit for coal mining immidiately as the first installment by 1 Sept 43 are to be transferred by the pleni potentiary General for labor allocative (Arbeitseinsatz GBA) with the consent of the chief, Supreme Command Armed Forces (OKW) (AWA/chief prisoner of war affair, trainload by trainload. As far as necessary the GBA (plenipotentiary for manpower) will provide substitutes.

2. In care of the receipt of new Soviet prisoners of war, the requirements of the coal mining industry has absolute priority over all other demands until further notice.

All prisoners of war, captured since 5 July 43 in the East, are to be sent to camps of the Supreme Command, Armed Forces (OKW) and from there, they are to be made available immidiately or by exchange with other consumers to the pleni potentiary for labor allocation (GBA) for use in the coal mining industry; the chairman of the national coal association (Reichsvereinigung Kohle) has the immidiate right of choice already in the prisoner of war camps of the Supreme Command, Armed Forces (OKW) area with the aid of his agencies.

3. Soviet proffessional coal miners are to be sent without exception from all prisoners of war allocation points according to their vocational training to the pleni-potentiary for labor allocation (GBA) against replacements for use in mining.

4. All male prisoners, from 16 to 55 years age, captured in guerilla fighting in the operational area, the army area, the Eastern commissariats, the Government General and the Balkans, will in the future be considered prisoners of war. The same applies to those males in the newly conquered territories of the East. They are to be sent to prisoner of war camps, and are to be brought from there for labor allocation in the Reich.

H1134-0032

H1134 - 0033

The chief of the Army General Staff and the Reichsfuehrer SS after consultation will issue within their jurisdiction the necessary directives on the conscription and further treatment of family members.

For presentation to the Fuehrer, the chief of the affairs of prisoners of war reports to me every ten days on the development of the action,
T. for the first time of 25 July 43 as of 20 July 43.

Distribution:

Army General Staff
(Supreme Commander Airforce)
(Airforce General Staff)

(Chief of army armament and)
(Commander of the replacement)
(army)

(General armed forces operation)
(office (AWA) chief of prisoner)
(of war affairs *))

(Reichsfuehrer SS and chief of)
(German Police)

K e i t e l (signed in ink)

Plenipotentiary for the Four Year Plan, attention State secretary K o e r n e r

Reichminister for armament and nutritions.

chairman of the Reich coal association (Reichsvereinigung Kohle) State conncillor Pleiger.

*) Post scriptum for AWA:

The necessary information of further agencies, who are also concerned, will be done by AWA with the consent of the plenipotentiary for labor allocation (GBA).

The Reichsfuehrer SS

Field headquarters
5 Aug 1943

Adjutand Yournal No. 891/43 secret

Subject: Manpower for coal mining industry.

Reference: Letter of the command staff of the Reichsfuehrer SS - yournal No Ia/1909/43 secret.

S e c r e t

1.) Chief of the personal staff of Reichsfuehrer SS
2.) SS-main office
3.) Reich security main office (RSHA)
4.) Race and resettlement main office-SS
5.) Main office, ordinary police
6.) SS-economic-administrative main office
7.) SS-personnel main office
8.) Main office SS-court
9.) SS-supreme command - Headquarters of the Waffen-SS
10.) Staff Headquarters of the Reichcommissar for the consolidation of Germanism
11.) Main office centre for Racial Germans (Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle)
12.) Office of SS-Obergruppenfuehrer Heissmeyer

H1134 - 0034

13.) Chief of the guerilla-fighting-units.
14.) Higher SS and Police Leader Ostland
15.) " " " " " Russia-Centre
16.) " " " " " Russia-South
17.) " " " " " Northeast
18.) " " " " " East
19.) " " " " " Alpine territory
20.) " " " " " Serbia
21.) Commissioner of the Reichsfuehrer SS for Croatia.

To figure 4. of the above mentioned order, I order, that all young female prisoners, capable of work, are to be sent to Germany for work, through the agency of Reich commissioner SAUCKEL.
Children, old women and men are to be collected and employed in the women's and children's camps, etablished by me, on estates as well as on the border of the evacuated area.

/s/ H. H i m m l e r

For the Reichfuehrer
GROTHMANN (in ink)
SS-Sturmbannfuehrer(MAJOR)

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 144-PS

I, Fred Niebergall, 2nd Lt.Inf. O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of the indicated excerpt from Document Nr. 144-PS.

Fred Niebergall,
2nd Lt.Inf.
O-1335567

H1134 - 0035

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 145-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Reichs Minister for the
Occupied Eastern Territories

Nr 369/R/H

Berlin W 35, 20 Aug 1941
Rauch Street 17/18
Tel: 21 95 15 and 39 50 46
Cable address: Reichminister East

Mr
Director of the Main Office of the Reich UTIKAL
(Reichshauptstellenleiter)
B e r l i n

Subject: Safeguarding the cultural goods in the occupied Eastern Territories

I have instructed the Reichs Commissioner for the Eastland and his subordinate general and district commissioners to secure all cultural goods in the Reichs Commissariat of the East which are appropriate in general for national-socialistic research as well as research of the activities of the opponents of National-Socialism. I delegate you to carry out with an "Einsatzstab" to be formed for this purpose this work of the Reichs Commissioner, the General, Main and Regional Commissioners, for their support. During the execution of this mission you will remain directly subordinate to Main Division II of my ministry whose directors will provide you with additional instructions. The orders issued by the Fuehrer for the "Einsatzstab" in the West remain also the same for the East.

The execution of your job will be financed, as in the occupied western territories, through the Reichs treasurer of the NSDAP. A later accounting between him and the ministry for the occupied eastern territories, respectively with the Reichs Commissariats is held in reserve.

I am including a letter of mine to the Reich Commissioner of the Eastland.

Heil Hitler!

signed: ROSENBERG

1 inclosure

Exhibit USA. 369
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134 - 0036

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT No. 149-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

ORDINANCE OF THE FUEHRER

Jews, Free-Masons and their associated, ideological enemies of National Socialism are responsible for the war, which is now being waged against the Reich.

The coordinated, ideological fight against those powers is a military necessity.

I therefor charged "Reichsleiter" Rosenberg to carry out this task in cooperation with the chief of the OKW. His "staff for special purposes" in the occupied territories is authorized to search libraries, record-offices, lodges and other ideological and cultural institutions of all kinds for suitable material and to confiscate the said material for the ideologic al tasks of the NSDAP and the later scientific research-work of the "Hohe Schule".

The same regulation applies to the cultural values, which are in possession of Jews, ownerless or not of unobjectionable origin.

The measures of execution concerning the cpperation with the Armed Forces (Wehrmacht) are issued by the chief of the OKW with the consent of the "Reichsleiter" Rosenberg.

The necessary measures within the territories of the East (Ostgebiete) under the German administration are determined by "Reichsleiter" Rosenberg in his capcity as "Reichsminister" for the occupied territories of the Eas (Ostgebiete).

signed: A. HITLER

Haedquarters of the Fuehrer, 1 March 1942

To all duty stations of
The Armed Forces
The Party
The State

H1134 - 0037

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 151-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Reichsminister for the
occupied Eastern territory

N. I/1/13/42

Berlin W 35, 7 April 1942
Kurfuerstenstrasse 134

Tel. 21 99 51

To: Reich Commissioner for the Ostland, RIGA
Reich Commissioner for the Ukraine, ROWNO

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of Cultural Goods, Research Material and Scientific Institutions in the Occupied Eastern Territories.

I

I have assigned Reichsleiter ROSENBERG's Einsatzstab for the Occupied Territories with the seizure and uniform handling of cultural goods, research material and scientific apparatus from libraries, archives, scientific institutions, museums, etc., which are found in public, religious or private buildings. The Einsatzstab begins its work, as newly directed by the Fuehrer's decree of 1 March 1942, immediately after occupation of the territories by the combat troops, in agreement with the Quartermaster General of the Army, and completes it in agreement with the competent Reich Commissioners after civil administration has been established. I request all authorities of my administration to support as far as possible the members of the Einsatzstab in carrying out all measures and in giving all necessary information, especially in regard to objects which may have been already seized from the occupied Eastern territories and removed from their previous location, and information as to where this material is located at the present time.

Any activity for the purpose of safeguarding cultural goods can be permitted only if it is carried out in agreement with Reichsleiter Rosenberg's Einsatzstab. The Einsatzstab will be constantly informed concerning the method and extent of investigations, work projects and measures.

All authorities of my administration are hereby instructed that objects of the afore-mentioned type will be seized only by Reichsleiter Rosenberg's Einsatzstab, and to abstain from arbitrary handling as a matter of principle.

Insofar as seizures or transports have already taken place contrary to these provisions, Reichsleiter Rosenberg's Einsatzstab, Berlin-Charlottenburg 2, Bismarckstrasse 1, telephone: 34 00 18, will be informed without delay, with an exact list of the objects as well as indication of the current storage place and persons entitled to dispose of them.

II

In exceptional cases immediate measures may be taken to safeguard or transport objects to a safe place in order to avoid threatened danger (for example, danger of collapse of buildings, enemy action, damage by weather, etc.). In all cases a written report will be submitted immediately to my Einsatzstab.

Decision regarding exceptions lies with the Reich or General Commissioners in agreement with the commissioners of the staff.

H1134-0038

III

I have sent copies of this order directly to the General Commissioners.

By order

signed/t/ Dr. LEIBBRANDT

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Illegible
Office Employee

Authenticated copy
Berlin Dec 15, 1943
signed: ZEISS
(Dr. Zeiss)
Leader of Stabseinsatz

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 151-PS

23 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 151-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt inf
O-1335567

H1134-0039

Exhibit U.S.A. 381
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1553-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Copy /B

Ministry of the Reich for
the Occupied Territories of
the East

Enclosure 1
Berlin 27 April 1942

To

a) Commissar of the Reich for the East
Riga

b) Commissar of the Reich for the Ukraine
Rovno

Subject: Formation of a central unit for the seizure and securing of objects of cultural value in the occupied eastern territories.

There has been established in the Reich Ministry for the occupied eastern territories a "central bureau for the seizure and securing of objects of cultural value in the occupied eastern territories" to last for a limited period as a special reference department within department I (Political). As head of the central bureau I designate the chief of staff of the "Einsatzstab of Reichsleiter Rosenberg for occupied territories", Party member UTIKAL. He is directly under the authority of Department I and will carry on this task in addition to his other duties.

On the central bureau devolves the general planning of all projects connected with the seizure and securing of objects of cultural value in the occupied eastern territories and also the supervision of the measures already taken.

Apart from exceptional cases in which the securing of objects of cultural value is exceptionally urgent, the bureau does not concern itself primarily with the securing of objects of cultural value, but rather makes use for the execution of measures of seizure and securing of the "Einsatzstab" of Reichsleiter Rosenberg for the occupied territories; the Einsatzstab will carry on its activities as before in close contact with the competent authorities of the civil administration that come under my jurisdiction.

With the commissars of the Reich a special department within Department II (political) has been set up for a limited time for the seizure and securing of objects of cultural value. This office is under the control of the head of the main work group (Hauptarbeitgruppe) of "Einsatzstab" of Reichsleiter Rosenberg for the occupied territories. The head of this special department is directly responsible to the chief of Department II.

signed: ROSENBERG

Certified true copy
Berlin 13 Dec 1943
(Dr Zeiss)
Chief of Staff

(also seal of "Einsatzstab of RL Rosenberg)

H1134 - 0040

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 153-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 153-PS

I, Fred NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf. O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 153-PS.

Fred NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
O-1335567

Exhibit USA 370
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134-0041

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT I54-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Reichsminister and
Chief of Chancellory.

BERLIN W 8, 5 July 1942
Voss-strasse 6
Present Headquarter of
the Führer

To: The Highest Reich Authorities and
The Services directly subordinate to the Führer.

The Führer has Delegated Reichsleiter ROSENBERG in his capacity of commissioner of the Führer to supervise the total spiritual and philosophical indoctrination and education of the NSDAP in the spiritual battle against Jews and Free-Masons as well as against the affiliated philosophical opponents of National Socialism, who are the cause of the present war. For this purpose, the Führer has ordered that Reichsleiter Rosenberg's Staff should be authorized, in the occupied territories under military administration and in the occupied EASTERN territories under civil administration (exclusive of the Generalgouvernement), to search libraries, archives, lodges and other philosophical and cultural institutions of all type for relevant material for the execution of his task and to request the competent Wehrmacht and police services to seize the material found in order to support the NSDAP in fulfillment of its spiritual tasks and for the later scientific research work of the "Hohe Schule", whereby police files concerning political activities will remain with the police, and all others be transferred to Reichsleiter ROSENBERG's Staff. The staff is authorized to make the same requestwith regard to cultural goods that are ownerless goods or the ownership of which cannot be readily determined. The Chief of the Army High Command, in agreement with Reichsleiter ROSENBERG, will issue regulations governing the cooperation with the Wehrmacht. The necessary measures within the EASTERN territories under German administration will be taken by Reichsleiter ROSENBERG in his capacity as Reichsminister for the occupied EASTERN territories.

I inform you of this order of the Führer and request you to support Reichsleiter ROSENBERG in the fulfillment of his task.

/s/ Dr. Lammers

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. I54-PS

---

5. September I945

I, Fred NITZBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, O-I335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document I54-PS

FRED NITZBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
O-I335567

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 158-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Exhibit USA-382
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

Berlin W 35, 1 June 1944
Margaretenstr. 17 - 22 95 51
St - U/Sz

MESSAGE

The Einsatzstab of Reichsleiter Rosenberg for the occupied territories has dispatched a Sonderkommando under the direction of Stabseinsatzfuehrer Dr. ZEISS, who is identified by means of his Service Book Number 187, for the accomplishment of the missions of the Einsatzstab in Hungary described in the Fuehrer's Decree of 1 March 1942.

According to the Fuehrer's Decree of 1 March 1942 (transmitted to the Supreme Reichs authorities by means of a letter of the Reichs Minister and Chief of the Reichs Chancellory RK 9495 B) in connection with the Army High Command Order # II 11564/42 General Army Staff (Gen d H)/ General Quartermaster-Az (Gen Qu-Az) Section K Administration (Administration) of 30 Sept 42, all offices are requested to support and help the Sonderkommando.

initial: U
(Utikal)

- - - - - - - - -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 158-PS

22 September 1945

I, WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE, Lt (jg) USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 158-PS.

WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE
Lt (jg) USNR
391590

H1134 - 0042

Exhibit U.S.A. 380
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134 - 0043

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 159 - PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Berlin 6 June 1944

Movement Order

Colonel-Einsatzfuehrer H.-W. EBELING is traveling to Denmark and Norway in order to carry out a special mission of Reichsleiter Rosenberg in harmony with the person authorized by the Reich in Denmark and the Reichs Commissar in Norway in conjunction with the Fuehrer's decree of 1 March 1942 (distributed to the highest Reich authorities through correspondence of the Reichs Minister and Chief of the Reich Chancellory RK 9495 B) and the Supreme Army Command order Nr. II/11564/42, General Staff of the Army/General Quartermaster Az. Section K Administration of the 30th Sept. 42.

As long as it is necessary for him to stay, all the offices of the State and the Army are directed to support the activities of the person mentioned on the basis of the Fuehrer decree of the 1 March 1942, the Supreme Army Command order of the 30 September 1942, and the Einsatz directive of the Head of the Security Police and Security Service of the 1st July 1942.

initialled: U
(Utikal)
Chief of the Einsatzstab

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 159 - PS

November 22nd, 1945

I, Williard Evans SKIDMORE, Lt. (jg) 391 590, USNR, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages, and that the above is a true and correct translation of the Document 159 PS

WILLIARD EVANS SKIDMORE

Lt.(jg) 391 590 USNR

Exhibit USA. 383
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134 - 0044

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 171-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Library for Exploration of the Jewish Question

"Hohe Schule", District Office, Frankfurt/Main. Institute for exploration of the Jewish question

On 26 March 1941 Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg inaugurated as the first district office of the "Hohe Schule" in Frankfurt/Main the Institute for Exploration of the Jewish Question (Frankfurt/Main Beckenheimer Landstrasse 68).

According to the order of the Fuehrer from 29 Jan 1940 the "Hohe Schule" is supposed to represent "the center of the national-socialist doctrine and education." At the same time Reichsleiter Rosenberg was authorized to make all necessary preparations for the foundation of the "Hohe Schule" in the realm of research and organization of libraries.

The district office in Frankfurt/Main, activated under those preparatory measures, competent for the domain of the Jewish question, contains besides a research-department and archives, a voluminous library whose stock shall be the subject of this article.

The basis for the library for exploration of the Jewish question is made up of the libraries from occupied territories, confiscated by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg, in accordance with the orders of the Fuehrer from 5 July 1940, 17 Sept 1940 and 1 March 1942. This material is derived from Jewish property, now centrally collected to serve the research, doctrine and education of the German people.

The most significant book-collections today belonging to the stock of the "Library for exploration of the Jewish question", are the following:

1) The library of the Alliance Israelite Universelle. Among the approximately 40,000 volumes of this library from Paris (mainly Judaica and Hebraica) are numerous volumes of magazines, voluminous pamphlet material, a very detailed literatur and collection of clippings from newspapers regarding the affair Dreyfus, about 200 Hebrew manuscripts and 30 manuscripts in other languages, about 20 incunabula.

2) The stock of the Ecole Rabbinique consists mostly of Judaica and Hebraica, altogether about 10,000 volumes. The Jewish texts of this Rabbi-school in Paris offers valuable Talmud-material and complete magazine series.

3) The library of the Federation de Societe des Juifs de France (about 4000 volumes) contains besides general literature about Jewry mostly Russian literature about the Jewish question.

4) The stock of the Jewish bookstore in Paris Lipschuetz (about 20,000 volumes) contains in its most valuable part bibliographical works, Hebraica and so on.

5) The various collections from former property of the Rothschilds of Paris generally are of no more than common interest, but they also show that the various members of the Rothschild family collected Jewish literature for their own orientation. The collections in question are the following:

a) Collection Edouard Rothschild (about 6,000 volumes)
b) Collection Edouard and Guy Rothschild (about 3,000 volumes)
c) Collection Maurice Rothschild (about 6,000 volumes)
d) Collection Robert Rothschild (about 10,000 volumes)
e) Collection of the Rothschild family in hunting seat Armainvilliers (about 3,000 volumes)

H1134 - 0045

TRANSLATION OF DOC.171-PS (cont.)

These Rothschild collections contain, besides the valuable book stock, important archive material which gives information on connections between Jews and non-Jews in France and abroad. In this connection it should be mentioned that the district office Frankfurt/Main also is in possession of the archives of the last 100 years of the Parisian bank of Rothschild (760 boxes).

6) The Rosenthaliana from Amsterdam with 20,000 volumes (mostly German language literature on the Jewish question.

7) The library of the Sefardischen Jewish community in Amsterdam with about 25,000 volumes (mostly Hebraica).

8) The large amount of books secured in the occupied eastern territories (prevalent Soviet-Jewish and Polish-Jewish literature, voluminous Talmud literature) are from collecting points in Riga, Kauen, Wilna, Minsk and Kiev (about 280,000 volumes).

9) Book collections from Jewish communities in Greece (about 10,000 volumes).

10) Book material from a "sonderaktion" in the Rhineland (collecting point Neuwied) with about 5,000 volumes.

11) The book collections mentioned under 1-10 were turned over to the Library for Exploration of the Jewish Question by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg and are constantly being filled up by new shipments from the Einsatzstab. Besides that, some 100,000 volumes which were obtained from other sources (finance offices and so on) by the district office, belong to the library for exploration of the Jewish question. Therefore, the library for exploration of the Jewish questions contains as of 1 April 1943:

Approximately 550,000 volumes (about 3,300 book boxes) including 325 boxes (approx. 24,000 volumes) earmarked for the district office but still kept in Berlin with the Staff, and including approx. 220,000 volumes (about 650 boxes) prepared for shipment to Frankfurt/Main at the various collecting points of the Einsatzstab and partly packed.

In detail, these stocks deposited in Berlin cover the material of the above under Nos 3, 5b, d and e mentioned libraries (about 17,000 volumes), furthermore parts of the collections mentioned under Nos 5a and c (about 7,000 volumes); all the books at the collecting points ready for shipment to Frankfurt/Main cover the whole stock as the collections mentioned under Nos 6 and 7 (about 50,000 volumes), part of that material secured in the East (compare No.8 above; there are in Minsk about 20,000 volumes, in Wilno about 50,000 volumes and in Kiev about 100,000 volumes). The stocks mentioned here which are still in Berlin or at the collecting points, make up approximately another 240,000 volumes. The district office in Frankfurt/Main has received so far approximately 300,000 volumes (about 2,325 boxes).

Of these, approximately 2,325 book boxes which arrived at the library for exploration of the Jewish question, were so far unpacked and put on bookshelves:

567 boxes of the Alliance Israelite Universelle (out of 656 boxes)
165 boxes of the Ecole Rabbinique (out of 243 boxes)
50 boxes of the book store Lipschuetz (out of 197 boxes)
84 boxes of the collection Edouard Rothschild (the remaining 75 boxes are still in Berlin)
23 boxes of the collection Maurice Rothschild (the remaining 39 boxes are still in Berlin)
159 boxes of the collection point Riga (the whole stock)

Thus 1,048 book boxes (about 150,000 volumes) were unpacked, that is half of the book boxes, so far received in Frankfurt/Main.

H1134 - 0046

TRANSLATION OF DOC.171-PS (cont.)

27,848 volumes were catalogued in Frankfurt/Main from 1 May 1941 (beginning of cataloguing) to 31 March 1943 (catalogue according to authors and subjects). According to the same principle the new publications which were put into the library for the exploration of the Jewish question since 1941, were catalogued - 9,325 volumes.

Apart from the actual importance of the Jewish question, the library for the research of the Jewish question assumes a high position in the realm of German libraries with its present collection of about 550,000 volumes because this Frankfurt library could be brought to such a degree of completeness as regards the literature on the Jewish question as never before in Europe or elsewhere. In the New Order of Europe Organization the library for the Jewish question not only for Europe but for the world will arise in Frankfurt am Main.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages: and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 171-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
O-1335567

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 176
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

R E P O R T

On the activities of the Einsatzstab of the Bureau of the Reichsleiter Rosenberg in the occupied Western Territories and The Netherlands.

Working Group Netherland

The Working Group Netherland of the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg began its work in agreement with the competent representative of the Reichskommissar during the first days of September, 1940. The execution of the past, conforming with the Fuhrer's orders, coordinated itself with the liquidation, that is confiscation, according to civil law, of the various subversive institutions---as set forth in the circulars of the OKW(A2 Nr.2850/40g Adj. Chef OKW),dated 5 July 1940, and of the Chief of the OKW to the Commander in Chief of the Wehrmacht in France(2 f 28.14WZ Nr. 3812/40g) dated 17 September 1940, as well as to the Commander in Chief of the OKW in the Netherlands.(Az 2 f 28 J(IA) Nr. 1338/40g) dated 30 October 1940. The screening of the material of the various Masonic lodges was taken care of primarily, and the library and the archives of the following lodges were sifted and all useful material was packed.

Droit Humain	(Lodge "v. Volmaking")	Amsterdam
" "	(Lodge "George Martin II")	"
" "	(Lodge "Nr. 4")	"
" "	(Lodge "Washington Nr.53")	"
" "	(Lodge "Hiram Abif")	"
" "	(Lodge "Eenheid")	"
" "	(Lodge "De drie zuilen")	"
" "	(Lodge "George Martin I")	Den Haag
" "	(Lodge "St. Germain")	" "
" "	(Lodge "v. Volmaking")	" "

Groot Oosten der Nederlande	(Lodge"Jacob vanCampen")	Amersfoort
" " " "	(Lodge"La Bien Aimee")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"La Charite")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"La Paix")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Concordia V.A.")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Willem Frederik")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Post Nobila Lux")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Nos Vincit Liber-tas")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Eendracht")	Amsterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"De Gelderscne Broederschap")	Arnhem
" " " "	(Lodge"In Vrijheid Een")	Bussum
" " " "	(Lodge"Silentium")	Delft
" " " "	(Lodge"L'Union Royale")	Den Haag.
" " " "	(Lodge"Hiram Abiff")	" "
" " " "	(Lodge"L'Union Frederic)	" "
" " " "	(Lodge"Groot Nederland")	" "
" " " "	(Lodge"De Oude Plichten)	" "
" " " "	(Lodge"L'Union Provin-ciale")	Groningen
" " " "	(Lodge"Vincit Vim Virtus)	Haarlem
" " " "	(Lodge"Kennermerland")	"
" " " "	(Lodge"Ad Lucem et Pacem)	"
" " " "	(Lodge"Willem Frederic Karel")	Den Helder
" " " "	(Lodge"De Gooische Broe-derschap")	Hilversum
" " " "	(Lodge"La Vertu")	Leiden
" " " "	(Lodge"Sint Lodewijk")	Nijmegen
" " " "	(Lodge"De drie Kolommen)	Rotterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Frederic Royal")	Rotterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Acacia")	Rotterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Concordia")	Rotterdam
" " " "	(Lodge"Ultrajectina")	Utrecht
" " " "	(Lodge"Anna Paulowna")	Zaandam

H1134 - 0047

H1134 - 0048

I.O.O.F.	(Victorie-Lodge No.50	)Alkmaar
" " " "	(Paradijs-Lodge No.1	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Mount-Sinai*Lodge NO.2	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Ware Bataven-Loge No.4	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Concordia-Lodge No.5	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Amstel-Lodge No.12	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Spinoza-Lodge No.13	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Eensgezindheids-Lodge No.17	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Patria-Lodge No.25	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Excelsior-Lodge No.32	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Broederschaps-Lodge No.47	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Wilson-Lodge No.51	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Mozart-Lodge No.55	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Rebekkah-Lodge "Hollandia" No.1	)Amsterdam
" " " "	(Gocische Lodge No.28	)Bussum
" " " "	(Humanitas-Lodge NO.23	)Den Haag.
" " " "	(Charitas-Lodge No.24	)Den Haag
" " " "	(Fidelitas-Lodge No.53	)Den Haag
" " " "	(Rebekkah-Lodge "Acacia" No.3	)Den Haag
" " " "	(Rebekkah-Lodge "Vrede" No.4	)Den Haag
" " " "	(Drie Schakels Lodge No.7	)Groningen
" " " "	(St. Maarten-Lodge No.15	)Groningen
" " " "	(St. Maarten-Lodge No. 15	)Groningen
" " " "	(Kennemer-Lodge No.27	)Haarlem
" " " "	(Eem-Lodge No.36	)Hilversum
" " " "	(Sleutel-Lodge No.57	)Leiden
" " " "	(Maas-Lodge No. 16	)Rotterdam
" " " "	(Luctor et Emergo Lodge no. 48	)Rotterdam
" " " "	(Rebekkah-Lodge "Omhoog" Nor.2	)Rotterdam
" " " "	(Sic Semper-Lodge No. 43	)Utrecht
" " " "	(Amicitia-Lodge No.54	)Utrecht
" " " "	(Rebekkah-Lodge "Tolerantia"	)Utrecht
" " " "	(Zaan-Lodge No.20	)Zaandam
" " " "	(Harmonie-Lodge No.38	)Zaandam
" " " "	(Czaar-Peter-Club	)Zaandam
" " " "	(Rebekkah-Lodge "Humanite" No.5	)Zaandam
Rotary Club	(Rotary Club No. 3521	)Alkmaar
" "	(Rotary Club No. 3333	)Amersfoort
" "	(Rotary Club No. 1336	)Amsterdam
" "	(Rotary Club No. 3233	)Arnhem
" "	(Rotary Club No. 5180	)Bussum
" "	(Rotary Club No. 4079	)Delft
" "	(Rotary Club No. 1919	)Den Haag.
" "	(Rotary Club No. 3013	)Groningen
" "	(Rotary Club No. 2299	)Haarlem
" "	(Rotary Club No. 2943	)Hilversum
" "	(Rotary Club No. 2386	)Leiden
" "	(Rotary Club No. 3467	)Nijmegen
" "	(Rotary Club No. 1879	)Rotterdam
" "	(Rotary Club No. 1431	)Utrecht
" "	(Rotary Club No. 4721	)Zaandam.

All together 470 cases combining material from the a ore mentioned lodges and from organizations of a similar status were packed and transported to Germany. Furthermore, everything the temple of the lodge in Nijmegen and the temple of the I.O.O.F. in Haarlem contained, was sent to Germany. Also, Steel-shelves for about 30,000 books were taken from the building belonging to the Grooten Oosten in Den Haag where they has so far been used for the Bibliotheka Klossiana, containing parts of one library of the Grooten Oosten, and the library of the Vrijmetselar-Stichting, Amsterdam, are of great value. And so are the archives of the Grooten Oosten

in Den Haag, containing all the historical documents of the lodges affiliated with the Grooten Oosten.

To estimate the value of the Bibliotheka Klossiana, containing many rare pieces, it is to be remembered that in 1930 the Grooten Oosten der Nederlande was offered $5,000,000 for the Bibliotheka Klossiana by Freemasous in the U.S.

A particularly valuable discovery was made by the working group searching the altars in the building of the Grooten Oosten in Den Haag. The Master-Hammer of the Grooten Oosten, Made of pure gold, with which some of its members had presented to the Grooten Oosten on its 60th Anniversary, fell into our hands. It is a piece of high quality whose money-value alone is estimated to be 3,000 Reichsmark.

The Working Group took over the International Institute for Social History in Amsterdam with its library and archives, boxes of extraordinary value. It seems that this institute was founded in 1934 with the intention of creating a center of intellectual resistance against National Socialism. Its employees were mainly Jewish refugees from Germany. The contents of its library and its archives with many very valuable items were brought together from all over the world. In the library, there are about 160,000 volumes, though most of them will have to be catalogued. Of particular interest is the German, French and Russian Department. According to the decision made by Reichsleiter Rosenberg, the Institute was taken over in its entity. A member of the Dienstelle was nominated as director of the Institute--he, together with his collaborators will arrange the books, catalogue the scientific material and get the Institute ready for the work of the Party. What may be said already is that the scientific value of the library and the archives is that they contain a complete collection of material on the social and socialist movements in certain countries.

The libraries of the Societas Spinozana in Den Haag and of the Spinoza-House in Rijnsburg also were packed. Packed in 18 cases, they, too, contain extremely valuable early works of great importance for the exploration of the Spinoza problem. Not without reason did the Director of the Societas Spinozana try, under false pretenses which we uncovered, to withhold the library from us.

Then the library of the Alliance Francaise, Den Haag, was packed(6 cases) as well as the German publication of the refugee-publishers Aller de Lange, Querido, Fischer-Beerman, Forum-Zeek, of the Kultura Bookshop and the publications of the Pegasus-Verlag, all in Amsterdam, a total of 17 cases. After that,the Working Group concentrated on packing the newspaper and magazine stocks of the International Institute for Social History. The very exclusive racks which had been brought together from all over the world were kept at the Institute in complete disorder and left to self-destruction; they were properly packed into 776 cases and stored, for the time being, in the Working Group's storehouses. It is very strongly suggested that these newspaper and magazines be bound and the volumes be put up in proper librairies as fast as possible;otherwise, an irreparabe loss will be the result since these newspapers and magazines are from all over the world.

A large unknown amount of material classified as "Enemy Goods" and coming from the so called "Overseas-Gifts", that is; household goods of Jewish refugees, is falling into our hands daily. These gifts are being kept at the so-called "House in Holland", and so far 43 cases were packed there, including the private library of the former Minister of the Eisner-Government, Neurath.

In agreement with the Commander-in-Chief of the Wehrmacht in the Netherlands, all libraries in houses of Jewish refugees and confiscated by the Wehrmacht, are being turned over to the Working Group. So far, the library of the Jew De Cat in Haarlem was packed into 4 cases.

An extremely valuable library, containing inestimable works on Sanskrit, was confiscated when the Theosophischen Society in Amsterdam was dissolved, and packed into 96 cases.

H1134 - 0049

A number of smaller libraires belonging tothe Spiritists, e Esperanto Movement, the Bellamy Movement, the International blical Research and various other minor international organizatio re packed into 7 cases;texts belonging to various minor Jewish rganizations were packed into 4 cases, and a library of the Anthrop saphic Society in Amsterdam into three.

It is safe to say that the racks of books confiscated, packed nd so far sent to Germany by the Working Group are of extraordinary scientific value and shall contribute an integral part of the library of the"Hohe Schule" The money-value of these libraries, as shown in the case of the "Klossiana", can only be estimated, but surely amount to 30-40,000,000Reichsmark.

For the coming months, action is planned on the following, enumerated here in chronological order:

1.)The libraries of the Theosophic Society and similar organizations in Den Haag, Rotterdam and several other places.

2.)Continuous sifting of objects confiscated in the "House in olland" and other buildings.

3.)Screening of several archives with Press-photos, consisting ltogether of 2.6 million pictures which shall be turned over to us y the Reichskommissariat.

4.)The Jewish private libraries in Amsterdam, particularly:

A.)The Israelite Library Beth-Hamidrasch Etz Chaim, msterdam, Rapenburgerstraat 109. This library, founded in 1740, contains about 4,000 volumes, particularly Jewish theology.

B.)Library of the Netherland Isrealite Seminar, Amsterdam, Rapenburgerstraat 177. It contains 4,300 volumes of Hebraica and 3,000 volumes Judaica. At the time, it took over the library of the Jewish Society for Literature, Thoelet(1830-1837) and valuable Jewish private collections. Amongst other things, it contains precious old prints from the years 1480 to 1560 and some manuscripts.

C.)The Portuguese-Israelite Seminar, Amsterdam, Jonas Daniel Meyerplein 5. There are 25,000 volumes, 450 manuscripts, 600 prints(Inkunablen) and numerous Exlibris, coins and the like nad the famous material on Talmud Literature.

D.)The so-called Rosentaliana, primarily a foundation by the Jew Rosenthal from Hannover. From there, it was at the time transferred and affiliated with the local university liibrary.In the meantime, it has on account of donations, grown considerably. Technically, it belongs to the Municipality of Amsterdam, but in the Catalogue of Libraries in the Netherlands of 1931, it is designated s "Private". According to the catalogue, it contains 25,000 olumes and 300 manuscripts. However, the amount of volumes reaches 00,000 indeed.

The libraries mentioned under 4.) ought to be of particular interest for the history of Western Europe. It is very likely that hitherto unknown facts may be brought into the open, on the era of Cromwell and that of the glorious Revolution of 1688 and the resulting personal union between England and the Netherlands. In particular, light may be thrown on Cromwell's attitude towards the J ws, possibly even on the Jewish influence on the developemnt of the Secret Service.

The temple and the museum of the Grooten Oosten der Nederlande. At present, both are needed for exhibitions on behalf of the Dienststelle of the Reichskommissar. With the end of the exhibition temple furnishings and museum shall be turned over to us.

A very conservative estimate of the value of the objects enumerated in 1.) to 5.) may be about three times as much as that of the libraries already packed. Therefore, it is safeto say that the library of the Hohe Schule shall, with very little effort, receive an extraordinary amount of treasures which shall give it a unique position in the realm of questions regarding Judaism and Free-Masonism.

H1134-0050

H1134 - 0051

The Working Group, in executing the afore-mentioned tasks, is bound strictly to the pace set by the Reichskommissar for the handling of the Jewish questions and that of the international organizations. This pace again is determined by the political evolution which is taking shape according to decisions made on a higher level, and which must not be hampered by individual acts. Work that has been authorized to be done by the Working Group, ut has not yet been accomplished should now, with twice as much personnel as before, be finished within 2 to 3 months. It may be mentioned that the Working Group has been working over-time for weeks now, and also is working, as is done on the battlefield, on Sundays.

The leader of the Working Group
Netherland.

Schimmer

Oberbereichsleiter.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 176-PS

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt. Inf. 0-133 55 67 hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the attached is a true and correct translation of Document 176-PS

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt. Inf.
0-133 55 67

H1134 - 0052

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 707-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Berlin-Wilmersdorf 1,
Hohenzollerndamm 31
Post office box 58
now:
Berlin-Grunewald, 8 February 1944
Douglasstrasse, 7/11

The Führer of the Reich
Head of the main office
VS-diary, number 507/44 secret
CdSSHA/Be/We. Adjtr-diary, number 253/44 secret
Please by way of reply give reference and date indicated above

SECRET!

To the "ancestral heritage"
leader of the SS Sievers
Waischenfeld, Oberfranken

001518 Feb. 14, 1944
Document Z C. IR 131

Dear comrade Sievers!

Enclosed herewith I transmit to you the attitude of the main leader of the SS group Jankuhn in regard to the evacuation of the museum of Charkow.

I have looked over the report hurriedly, I have not read it. It is superfluous to discuss it.

Heil Hitler
W.C. Bügel
SS leader

Pencil note:

It is a cheap method to do away with my report, which is supported by facts, by referring to matters that are not dealt with in the report because these matters do not pertain to the functions of the Sonderkommando Jahnkuhn, and were not within Jahnkuhn's jurisdiction. Transport space and transport facilities were not supplied by the Waffen SS but by the German Reich-Railroad. This opportunity was available to the opposing side, but was not utilized by them.

- -

The Ancestor's Heritage
The Secretary for the Reich Organization
(Der Reichsgeschaeftsfuehrer)

Berlin-Dahlem, 30 Oct 42
Diary / G/h/7 Wo/Bg

To
Dozent Dr Franz H a n c a r !
Wien III/40
Hiessgasse 4

SECRET

Subject: Commitment in Russia (Russland-Einsatz)

Dear Dr Hancar!

In order to secure the possessions of important museums and discoveries in the combat zone in the East, the Reichsfuehrer SS has ordered the creation of a special unit under Captain of the SS, Professor Dr Herbert JANKUHN which has been operating together with an SS division very successfully for quite some time.

In the course of the execution of the order, the collections from Maikop, Pjatigorsk and Woroschilowsk have already been secured, besides other important scientific collections from the four important museums in Northern Caucasia. Work may already be done in these museums, and Professor Dr JANKUHN proposes to set up a complete registration, by way of drawings and photography, of all prehistoric findings.

I am following a suggestion of Professor Dr Herbert JANKUHN

H1134 - 0053

in asking you whether you would be willing to take over this job, mainly regarding Eastern European prehistoric problems, which ought to be of particular interest to you. In case you would accept, I would like you to let me know when you could start working, and what should have to be done in order to secure your leave.

SS-Captain Professor Dr Herbert JANKUHN shall return to Germany by the beginning of December. Therefore it will be possible without difficulties to discuss then all pertinent questions during a personal meeting.

Heil Hitler!

signed: Sievers
Lt Col of the SS

- -

Entered Jan. 20, 1944/185

Leader of the Staff

Berlin, Jan. 14, 1944
H. A. II-Dr. Z/Do.

File note for the Leader of the Staff.

Subject: Reply with regard to the letters of the captain in the SS Jankuhn to the Personal Staff of the Reich Führer of SS Office for the ancestral heritage, dates August 12, 13, and 22, 1943, respecting the evacuation and destruction of the Charkow Museum.

The criticism, which the captain in the SS delivers against the Special Purpose Staff for very evident reasons, can readily be answered, because he states things without any closer investigation, that should disparage the work of the Special Purpose Staff and the Office devoted to pre- and early historic research, because this latter work is apparently inconvenient to him.

In his letter of August 13, 1943, J. had forgotten to mention that the captain who had rebuilt the museum for prehistoric art was in fact a deputy of the Special Purpose Staff, namely, First Lieutenant Müller, who by means of truly untiring and objective work during his free time had set up the museum to such an extent that it could again be opened to the public. The museum was visited by numerous officers and men, also by units of the Armed SS and the police. A thorough inventory had been taken, also many photographic copies were on hand. Thus First Lieutenant Müller had performed a gratifying task in time of war which was generally recognized by the leaders of the units stationed in Charkow. The report of Jankuhn does not make any reference at all to this work of the Special Purpose Staff.

On 6 February, 1943, the command was given for the first evacuation of the city. The Special Purpose Staff had then through untiring effort brought out the most valuable prices of the museum; on 9 February it was necessary for the last members of the office to lease the city, which already had been almost abandoned by German troops. It was impossible at that time to bring out all the material, because the transportation situation did not permit this. It was not really necessary for SS leader Jahnkuhn to point out that these objects were important and worthy of being brought to safety. On the other hand, however, one must also consider the transportation problems that arise at the time of the evacuation of a city. It is evident that at such a time military transports receive unqualified priority, that even the most valuable possessions of culture cannot take precedence over them. Yet the Special Purpose Staff was able to salvage the most

H1134 - 0054

important articles of the museum. The remainder was entrusted to the care of the former curator of the museum, Professor Rudenski. Of this balance, again the most valuable was walled up with in the enclosures of a bomb-proof cellar. For several days Professor Rudenski succeeded in saving the building from being blown up as intended. Finally, however, on the evening of February 14, 1943, as related by Professor Rudenski, by an oversight of a command of the Waffen SS, a fire broke out in the building and it burned down to the ground. Yet, later on, a large portion of the valuables from the cellar was salvaged again. However, a Gothic sword was missing. Now, as alleged by Jankuhn, it turns out that this sword was preserved by a unit of the Waffen SS.

Captain of the SS J. could have easily learned of these facts, if he had taken the trouble to contact the competent labor group Ukraine of the Special Purpose Staff and not Prof. Hornung, who had been installed in an entirely different district and who knew nothing about the developments in Charkow. At least he would not have exposed himself to the charge that he frivolously and without closer examination of the circumstances had claimed "that the Special Purpose Staff had not done the least for the preservation of the things that were found." The contrary is true.

After the recapture of the city, the valuables were reclaimed from the wreckage and the museum was opened again to the public on July 19, 1943. Thus it was proved anew that the Special Purpose Staff had done everything in the way of securing possessions of great cultural value and preserving them in the interests of the German administration.

Unfortunately, the second loss of Charkow in August 1943 rendered the work of restoration null and void. On August 6 the working staff received an evacuation summons with the order to leave Charkow immediately and without delay. Conditions affecting transportation were the same as in spring. If, indeed, valuable military installations had to remain behind, it is clear that, above all, objects from a museum had to remain behind. If the SS command had trucks at its disposal and could use the transportation facilities without consideration of military needs for the objects of the museum, then this is certainly a matter of very great appreciation. On the other hand, however, it cannot be charged to the Special Purpose Staff that it did not possess adequate transportation facilities. Nevertheless, the co-workers of the working staff have done what they could in order to preserve the most important part of the picture collection. In two days, already under hostile action, a large portion of museum collections was examined for the purpose of qualifying for transportation and then the selected assortment of 300 pictures of Western-European masters and Ukrainian painters and twenty-five costly Ukrainian carpets was packed and shipped. As already at an earlier date the most important collections of the museum, dealing with prehistoric art, had been carried off, the special command Jankuhn could only preserve third and fourth grade pieces of which several could be found in Kiev and other places.

The Special Purpose Staff under these circumstances sees no occasion for making any reproaches against the Special Command Jankuhn. If one was able to have at one's disposal transportation facilities and manpower in a more liberal manner, then it was easy to carry off larger collections. That the Special Command J. had done this is gratefully acknowledged by the Special Purpose Command; since it is being taken for granted that the collection was saved for the owner, namely, the Reich Minister of the occupied Eastern districts and that correspondingly it is handed over to the Special Purpose Staff as the deputy of civil affairs. The Special Purpose Staff asks for the necessary action.

H1134 - 0055

The staff command cannot rid itself of the impression that the Captain in the SS Jankuhn submitted his report frivolously on the basis of one-sided information. If he had made inquiries at the proper places without doubt he would have arrived at a different conclusion. At this juncture it is necessary to take a firm stand for the protection of the co-workers of the Special Purpose Staff and to ward off strongly every attack of a bureau that does not clearly understand the conditions.

Moreover, it could have been expected that Captain in the SS J. would have used the opportunity to get acquainted with the bureaus of the Special Purpose Staff and effected some cooperation. With the cooperation of both certainly more material could have been salvaged than had been done regardless (of the handicaps).

signed: Utikal

- -

SS "Ancestral Heritage"
Research Organization

Waischenfeld/Oberfranken
October 6, 1943

To the Chief of the SS Central Bureau
SS Leader Berger
Berlin

Dear SS Leader!

Already on July [illegible] of this year the need arose to inform you about frictions that developed between co-workers of the SS "Ancestral Heritage" Research Organization and the Special Purpose Staff R.R. in Dnjepropetrovsk. In this connection I did not neglect to mention that Reich minister Rosenberg complained that we had removed prehistoric discoveries from the Caukasus.

In order to complete the picture, I am turning over to you as supplement two reports from Captain in the SS (F) Jankuhn. They refer to the Museum in Charkow and they reveal with full clarity that the men of the Special Purpose Staff R.R.--insofar as we have met them heretofore--lack the simple prerequisites for the work in the East, namely, an unobjectionable, manly behavior.

I am summarizing the two reports and, briefly, I am able to conclude: 1) When the evacuation of Charkow became necessary in the winter of 1942, the Special Purpose Staff R.R. left the city without having done anything for the salvage of the museum.

2) On August 8, 1943 it became known that the possibility of a surrender of Charkow existed. On August 11 at nine in the morning the last man of the Special Purpose Staff R.R. left Charkow. Before August 15 no one considered any evacuation possible. In reality, Charkow was not evacuated until August 24. Not the least had been done for the salvaging of the collections of the museum, even though the care for the museum is in the hands of the Special Purpose Staff R.R. There were even documents on the desks, which leads one to believe that the men concerned abandoned their work as quickly as possible. Captain in the SS Jankuhn thereupon packed up the treasures and ordered them to be shipped.

This behavior of the men of the Special Service Staff R.R. could obviously be described by the most appropriate terms, and we are not at all surprised, if just these people "take a shot at" the men of the SS Reichsführer, who really do nothing but fulfill the duties neglected by the former.

Heil Hitler!
SS Leader

Copy

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 707-PS
Continued

Command Post Division
Std., September 25, 1943

To the personal staff of the Reich Führer of SS
Office of the SS "Ancestral Heritage" Research Organization
Berlin

Concerning the evacuation of the museum of Poltava

When it became known that the evacuation of the city of Poltava by September 21, 1943, was anticipated, I intended to examine personally the condition of the museum there and to order the necessary measures for preserving them, should the need arise.

Since the CO of the division, SS Leader Daltweiler, had learned during a stay in P. that the salvaging of the museum through a specialist officer of the armed forces on the basis of a command from the O.B., already had begun, a trip to Poltava was abandoned.

Heil Hitler!
Signed: H. Jankuhn
Captain in the SS (F)

For the correctness of this copy:
SS Leader

- -

Copy

III

Special Command
Fp. 16 284

Command Post Division
Std., August 22, 1943

To the personal Staff of the Reich Führer of SS Office of the SS
Office of the SS "Ancestral Heritage" Research Organization
Berlin

Regarding the destruction of the museum in Charkow.

On August 21, upon my suggestion, Sergeant in the SS, Dr. Zarp, from KB unit 5, visited the museum in Charkow. He found that the museum building had been burned down completely.

Since the more valuable pieces had been salvaged,--as was pointed out in the report of December 8, 1943,--no loss of more important objects of culture was sustained through the destruction of the museum.

Signed: H. Jankuhn
Captain in the SS

For the correctness of this copy
SS Leader

- -

Copy

I

Special Command Jankuhn
16 284

Command Post Division
Std., August 13, 1943

To the personal Staff of the Reich Fuhrer of SS
Office of the SS "Ancestral Heritage" Research Organization
Berlin

Regarding the destruction of the museum in Charkow in the spring of 1943.

Through the interrogation of Prof. Hornung, the curator of the museum in Dnjipropetrowsk, chosen by the Special Purpose Staff

H1134 - 0056

and on the basis of information that was supplied by the commander of the F.K.V. of the secret police and of the security service, the following could be brought to light concerning the fate of the museum of prehistoric art in Charkow in the spring of 1943.

In 1941/42 the museum of prehistoric art in Charkow was reestablished anew in the main street of the city, the Sumskaja, by a captain, who for this purpose had been given a furlough. The exhibition is said to have been good and well arranged. Besides collections of prehistoric character there were to be found in the museum articles referring to folklore. When, during the winter campaigns of the months of February and March, the Special Service Staff R.R. left the city without having done the least for the saving of the collections. Merely a Gothic sword and a gold-plated handle are said to have been taken along by one SS unit. Since the salvaging of the piece was not effected through the Security Service Command in Charkow, it must be assumed that a unit of the II SS armored corps took this gorgeous weapon along.

After the retreat of the German troops, the museum was destroyed, apparently by explosion or fire. The Ukrainian collections stored there were destroyed almost completely.

Recent excavations undertaken in the ruins of the building have yielded only insignificant pieces of the material formerly stored there.

Thus one of the most important museums of Russia with collections of great cultural value was given over to destruction through the agencies of the German civil administration.

Signed: Jankuhn
Captain in the SS

For the correctness of this copy
SS Leader

- -

IIa

Exhibit i
To the report of 15 August 1943

This Institute of Culture
is confiscated by the Charkow garrison!
It is secured for the Special Command R.R. and is placed under its professional supervision.
Outside of the rules for visit and use, it it is forbidden to enter the institute; the taking of material is considered looting and will be punished as such.
Special permits through the Special Command R.R. Charkow, Sumskaja 48.
In the field, June 30, 1943

For the Commander of the garrison

O.K. V.Rat

- -

(Handwritten draft)
Copy 5 times

II
Command Post Division
August 15, 1943

Special Command
Jankuhn
16884

H1134-0057

H1134-0058

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 707-PS
Continued

SS "Ancestral Heritage"
Research Organization
Berlin
034482 x-Oct. 9,1943
Copy Z. R/4r/rsk

To the personal Staff of the Reich Führer of SS
Office of the SS "Ancestral Heritage" Research Organization
Berlin

Subject: Evacuation of the museum in Charkow.

On August 8,'43 in the evening it became known that the possibility of an evacuation of Charkow until August 14 existed. On August 10, 1943, I went in the company of an interpreter, SS Sergeant Jacobsen, to Charkow. In the afternoon I reported to the commander of the D.K.V of the SIPO and the SD, Major Kraubitter, and informed him that I was entrusted by the Reichführer SS with the salvage of the museum in the field of operations of the Waffen SS on the Southern front. In this connection I learned of the fate of the museum in Charkow during the evacuation of Charkow in the beginning of 1943; a separate report on that subject is being prepared. At the same time Major Kraubitter informed me that the KVR with the garrison of Charkow, who was responsible for the museums had already left the city days ago. A further inquiry in the buildings of the bureau of the Special Purpose Staff R.R. revealed that this bureau already had left Charkow on the morning of August 10. A survey of the museum in the company of Major Kraubitter revealed the following picture:

The Museum contains a small prehistoric department after the really prehistoric museum had been destroyed in the winter after failure of evacuation. Moreover, it contained a good collection of Ukrainian art of folklore character, small objects of ecclesiastical art, particularly, however, mostly paintings of Ukrainian painters, as the pictures of central- and west-European masters had been transported to Germany by the SD in 1942. The storehouse of the museum contains still numerous pictures. The key to the museum was given to the Ukrainian lady superintendent by the Special Purpose Staff R.R., who also related that at eight o'clock in the morning on October 8 a gentleman of the Special Purpose Staff R.R. had been in the museum and with several pictures had quickly departed at 8:30 o'clock. As a matter of fact, some pictures of the collection were missing, approximately 1 %.

After no one had taken steps toward any real preservation of the museum, neither among the garrison nor among the Special Purpose Staff R.R., which according to the poster, referred to as Exhibit I, was responsible for the care of the collection, the packing was begun.

The prehistoric findings--almost exclusively ceramics of the bronze age--were packed in two wooden boxes and shipped by a truck of the EKV; they were to be sent from Kiew to Berlin.

The exhibit of Ukrainian popular art contained textiles, ceramics, glass, costumes, and objects of wood. The greater part is packed in two large wooden boxes and was shipped with the evacuation material of the EKV by rail to Dnjepropetrowsk. Among it was a large tapestry, which on account of its size could not be packed.

From the collection of paintings the most valuable pictures were selected and shipped by rail in the direction of Dnjepropetrowsk,

H1134 - 0059

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 707-PS
Continued

The documents that remained lying on the desk of the Special Purpose Staff R.R.--a work plan of the Special Purpose Staff R.R. signed by a section chief Schmidt and a report on Ukrainian art--were saved and turned over to the EKV of the SIPO and the SD.

Signed: Jankuhn
Captain in the SS

For the correctness of this copy
SS Leader.

- -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 707-PS

9 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt., Inf., 0-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a correct and true translation of Document No. 707-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL,
2nd Lt., Inf.,
0-1335567

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1015 B
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

SPECIAL STAFF FOR PICTORIAL ART

Report of work during the period from October 1940 to July 1944

On the basis of the decree of the Fuehrer of 17 September 1940 relative to the seizure of ownerless works of art formerly possessed by Jews in the occupied WESTERN territories, the special staff for pictorial art commenced at the beginnin of October 1940 in PARIS with the seizure of the works of art abandoned by the internationally known Jewish ROTHSCHILD family, which was also famous as the possessor of great art collections. It was not possible for the various members of the Jewish ROTHSCHILD family, nor for many other rich French Jews, to take any considerable part of their part possessions to England and America in their precipitous flight before the German occupation. The staff has not only seized very great parts of the art treasures abandoned in the Paris City Palaces of the ROTHSCHILDS, but it also systematically searched the country-seats of the individu members of the ROTHSCHILD family, such as the famous LOIRE castles, for art treasures and thereby safeguarede for the Reich very important parts of the world famous ROTHSCHILD art collection. The art possessions of the ROTHSCHILD's were traced not only to cleverly hidden places in the individual castles but also to depots and warehouses, as for example in BORDEAUX and other coastal cities, where these art treasures had already been packed for transport to America. In this same manner the art possessions of other French Jews famous as art collectors such as KANN, DAVID-WLIL, Levy de BENZION and SELIGMANN were traced by the staff and seized in their entirety.

After the seizure of the most famous Jewish art collections in PARIS, all abandoned dwellings of the wealthy Parisian Jews, as well as the warehouses of all shipping firms and many other art depots of emigrated Jews, which were very often camouflaged by French gentiles, were systematically searched by the special staff for pictorial art and very considerable art treasures found in this manner. These seizures were carried out on the basis of preliminary exhaustive investigations into the address lists of the Frenchpolice authorities, on the basis of Jewish handbooks, warehouse inventories and order books of French shipping firms as well as on the basis of French art and collection catalogs. The clearly established Jewish origin of the individual owners was proved in each case in cooperation with the French police authorities and the Sicherheitsdienst (Security Service), as well as on the basis of the political secure material of the staff itself.

According to the same system, the seizure of ownerless Jewish works of art was gradually extended over the whole French territory. The investigations of the special staff for pictorial art were often made extraordinarily difficult by proven sabotage by French authorities, as well as by camouflaging of Jewish possessions by trusteeship of French Gentiles covering up for the Jews. In spite of this, Jewish art possessions in the occupied French territories was seized to such an extent as to justify the assumption that, in spite of all opposition and camouflaging, the most important part of the art possessions which had been in the hands of Jews in France, insofar as these had not already been removed before the occupation, was safeguarded by the staff. The wholesale removal of irreplaceable European art values was thereby prevented and the highest artistic products of all European nations assured for Europe.

In the course of this art seizrure by the staff in the occupied WESTERN territories, the following were seized from 203 locations (collections).

21903 art objects of all types, as counted and inventoried up to now.

A seizure record was made for each location, recording the origin of the objects with exact individual data. All seized art treasures were first taken to a collection warehouse at the former Jeu de Paume Museum and then to rooms of the LOUVRE which had been placed at their disposal. They were scientically inventoric and photographed by scientific art workers of the special staff for pictorial are and carefully packed there by experts for transport to the Reich. These jobs were especially difficult, since the majority of the collections and individual art objects were taken over without any inventories or indications of origin, and the scientific cataloguing had to be carried out by the scientific art workers of the staff.

ng of 194 ... the staff have b...
in ... seiz...
ind...
hou...

H1134 - 0060

Since the beginning of 1943, art seizures of the staff have been extended to include also furniture seizures of the EAST Ministry, whereby a great number of individual valuable art works could be seized from individual dwellings and warehouses.

During the period from March 1941 to July 1944, the special staff for pictorial art brought into the Reich:

29 large shipments including
137 Freight-cars with
4174 cases of art works.

These shipments were taken to 6 shelters in the Reich, unpacked and stored with observation of all conservation, air raid and fire protection precautions. At the shelters the inventories, which had served in PARIS only for identification, were supplemented according to scientific view-points, and the results of the scientific cataloguing were recorded on inventory lists and thoroughly indexed. With this scientific inventory of a material unique in its scope and importance and of a value hitherto unknown to art research, the special staff for pictorial art has conducted a work important to the entire field of art. This inventory work will form the bbasis of an all-inclusive scientific catalog, in which should be recorded history, scope and scientific and political significance of this historically unique art seizure.

A restoration work shop equipped with all technical aids was established by the special staff at one of the shelters, and has been occupied with the care and restoration of seized articles of artistic value, as well as with their permanent observation at the shelters. Several hundreds of the works of art that had been neglected by their Jewish owners or had earlier been inexpertly restored were restored in this workshop and their preservation assured.

In addition, all seized articles of artistic value were photographed by the photography workshop of the special staff and included in a film library. Thereby not only the identity of each individual art work was recorded, but also material of permanent value for study and publication in the field of art was created.

Up to 15 July 1944 the following had been scientifically inventoried:
21 903 art works

5 281 paintings, pastels, water-colors, drawings
684 miniatures, glass and enamel paintings, books and manuscripts
583 plastics, terra-cottas, medallions and plaques
2 477 articles of furniture of value to art history
583 textiles (Gobelins, rugs, embroideries, Coptic materials)
5 825 hand-made art works (porcelains, bronzes, faiences, majolica, ceramics, jewelry, coins, art objects made with precious stones)
1 286 East Asiatic art works (bronzes, plastics, procelains, paintings, folding screens, weapons)
259 art works of antiquity (sculptures, bronzes, vases, jewelry, bowls, cut stones, terra-cottas).

These figures will be increased, since seizures in the WEST are not yet completed, and it has not been possible to make a scientific inventory of part of the seized objects because of the lack of experts.

The extraordingryy artistic and material value of the seized art works cannot be expressed in figures. The paintings, period furniture of the 17th and 18th centuries, the Gobelins, the antiques and renaissance jewelry of the ROTHSCHILD's are objects of such a unique character that their evaluation is impossible since no comparable values have so far appeared on the art market.

A short report, moreover, can only hint at the artistic worth of the collection Among the seized paintings, pastels and drawings there are several hundred works of the first quality, masterpieces of European art, which could take first place in any museum. Included therein are absolutely authenticated signed works of REMBRANDT van RIJN, RUBENS, Frans HALS, Vermeer van DELFT, VELASQUEZ, MURILLO, GOYA, Sebastiano del PIOMBO, Palma VECCHIO, etc.

H1134 – 0061

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1015 B
Continued

Of first importance among the seized paintings are the works of the famous French painters of the 18th century, with masterpieces of BOUCHER, WATTEAU, FRAGONARD, LARGILLIERE, KAUFFER, FRAGONARD, PATER, DUBOUX and de TROY.

This collection can compare with those of the best European museums. It includes many works of the foremost French masters, who up to now have been only inadequately represented in the best German museums. Very important also is the representation of masterpieces of the Dutch painters of the 17th and 18th centuries. First of all should be mentioned the works of van DYCK, Salomon and Jacob RUISDAEL, WOUVERMANN, TERBORCH, Jan WEENIX, Gabriel METSU, Adrian van OSTADE, David TENIERS, Pieter de HOOCH, Willem van der VELDE, etc.

Of foremost importance also are the represented works of English paintings of the 18th and 19th centuries, with masterpieces of Reynolds ROMNEY and GAINSBOROUGH. CRANACH and AMBERGER, among the German masters, should be mentioned.

The collection of French furniture of the 17th and 18th centuries is perhaps even more highly to be evaluated. This contains hundreds of the best preserved and, for the most part, signed works of the best known cabinet-makers from the period between LOUIS XIV to LOUIS XVI. Since German cabinet-makers played an important part in this golden age of French cabinetry, now recognized for the first time in the field of art, this collection is of paramount importance.

The collection of Gobelins and Persian tapestries contains numerous world famous objects. The collection of handicraft works and the ROTHSCHILD collection of renaissance jewelry is valuable beyond comparison.

Very many works of art were seized by the staff from the luggage of Jewish emigrants in Holland as well as in the occupied territories of French and Belgium.

Work in the EASTERN territories.

The activity of the special staff for pictorial art was limited in the occupied EASTERN territories to a scientific and photographic recording of public collection and their safeguarding and care in cooperation with the military and civil services. In the course of the evacuation of the territory several hundred most valuable Russian Ikons, several hundred Russian paintings of the 18th and 19th centuries individual articles of furniture and furniture from castles were saved in cooperation with the individual army groups, and brought to a shelter in the Reich.

A collection of degenerate Bolshevist art, as well as a collection of degenerate JEWISH art, was also made for political study purposes. In addition, a rich collection of material concerning Soviet architecture was made.

25 portfolios of pictures with the most valuable works of the art collections seized in the WEST were presented to the Fuehrer on 20 April 1943, together with three volumes of a provisional catalog of paintings and an interim progress report. Additional portfolios of pictures are in preparation.

Robert SCHOLZ

Bereichsleiter
Chief of the Special Staff
for Pictorial Art.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 1015 B

7 November 1945

I, FRED NIELBERGALL, 2nd Lt., Inf., 0-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a correct and true translation of Document No. 1015 B.

FRED NIELBERGALL,
2nd Lt., Inf.,
0-1335567

H1134 - 0062

H1134 - 0063

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1015 GG
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Statement of art objects counted and inventorized

I.	**Paintings**		
	Oil paintings	3027	
	Water-colors	766	
	Drawings	1332	
	Pastels	156	
	Ingravings 1)	4525	
	Miniatures - portraits	442	
	Miniatures - parchments - initial letters	51	
	Persian miniatures	49	
	Glass Paintings	19	
	Porcelain - enamels - paintings	455	
	Books and manuscripts	55	
	Reproductions	13	
			10890
II.	**Plastics**		
	Bronze and other metals including statuettes	129	
	Marble and other stones	110	
	Wood	65	
	Terra-cotta, clay and porcelain	74	
	Reliefs	52	
	Medaillons and plaques	121	
	Ivory	3	
	Wax	3	
	Plaster	26	
			583
III.	**Furniture**		
	Chests of drawers	241	
	Clothes-presses	33	
	Writing tables	86	
	Secretaries	69	
	Sewing tables	11	
	Tables	255	
	Sideboards	5	
	Kitchen tables	26	
	Cupboards	155	
	Chairs and sofas	979	
	Clocks of various types	115	
	Chandeliers, etc.	277	
	Miscellaneous	143	
	Mirrors	21	
	Consoles	61	
			2477
IV.	**Textiles**		
	Gobelins	66	
	Carpets	291	
	Cloths	104	
	Coptic cloths	36	
	Embroidory, weavings (Including fragments)	86	
			583

V.	Hand-made art objects		
	Porcelain (cups, plates, vases)	335	
	Ceramics (cups, bowls)	252	
	Fayence, Majolika	324	
	Glass	140	
	Porcelain figures	92	
	Bronze and other metals	371	
	Objects of rare metals	189	
	Articles of daily use	303	
	Jewelry	243	
	Coins	844	
	Weapons	206	
	Orientaliaand exotica	388	
	Objects of rare gems	74	
	Other art works 2)	2059	
			5825
VI.	East-Asiatic		
	Plastics	48	
	Bronzes to 1500 and later	26	
	Porcelains and stone-ware before 1644	472	
	Porcelains and stone-ware after 1644	101	
	Clay-ware	19	
	Semi-precious gems and ivories	92	
	Netsuka (Japanese art objects)	68	
	Paintings	72	
	Wood-carvings	183	
	Lacquers	27	
	Folding screens	6	
	Weapons	31	
	Miscellaneous	141	
			1286
VII.	Antiquities		
A.	Greek		
	Sculptures, including reliefs	3	
	Bronzes, including statuettes	6	
	Terra-cottas and other clays	14	
	Vases, bowls, pitchers	6	
	Jewelry about	40	
	Miscellaneous	6	
B.	Roman		
	Sculptures, including portraits	15	
	Bronzes, including statuettes	19	
	Clay	1	
	Jewelry about	83	
	Miscellaneous	15	
C.	Egyptian		
	Sculptures, including reliefs	20	
	Bronzes, including statuettes	11	
	Cut stones	5	
	Miscellaneous	10	
D.	Asia-Minor		
	Reliefs	1	
	Clay	1	
	Cut Stones	3	
			259
	Total		21903

H1134 - 0064

H1134 – 0065

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1015 GG
continued

Remarks:

1) In enumerating engravings in portfolios, the sheets were counted individually. In bound volumes the engravings were considered as one number.

2) Among the other art works are also included antique and East-Asiatic miniatures from the KANN Collection, which up to now have received no exact classification.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 1015 GG

7 November 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt., Inf., O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German Languages; and that the above is a correct and true translation of Document No. 1015 GG.

385
Exhibit U.S.A. ~~1055~~
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134 - 0066

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1015i-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Reich Marshal of the
Greater German Reich

Berlin W8, 30 May 1942
Leipziger Str. 3

Dear Party member Rosenberg:

Your Einsatzstab for the seizure of cultural goods in Paris, I believe, has been wrongly reported to you as if it were dealing in works of art itself. I know the task of the Einsatzstab very well and must assert that there is no agency to which I am able to express such unrestricted praise for its continued work and readiness as to this agency proper with all its collaborators. Presumably I have given cause for the reputation of dealing in works of art because I have asked some especially experienced gentlemen if anywhere during their stay in Paris or France they should hear of any pictures or other art objects to be sold by art dealers or private individuals to look at those objects and to inform me if there should be anything of interest for me. Since the latter was often the case, I have then again asked the gentlemen to do me the favor to acquire the objects for me for which purpose I have kept a depot ready for them. If thus some gentlemen got very busy to make contacts with art dealers it was exclusively a personal favor which was done for me for the benefit of building up my collection. Since very many prospective buyers endeavor to seize art objects in the occupied territory, I can well imagine that perhaps out of ignorance of the circumstances, but perhaps also out of envy they have caused the gentlemen of your Einsatzstab to be suspected wrongly.

I feel it my duty to give you this information and to ask you that it may remain this way. On the other hand I also support personally t the work of your Einsatzstab wherever I can do so, and a great part of the seized cultural goods can be accounted for because I was able to assist the Einsatzstab by my organizations.

With best regards and Heil Hitler!

Yours,

signed: Hermann GOERING

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 1015i-PS

---

26 September 1945

I, WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE, Lt (jg) USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 1015i-PS.

WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE
Lt (jg) USNR
391590

H1134-0067

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1099-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Minsk, 29 September 1941

The Commissar General for
White Ruthenia

To: The Reich Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories
Reichsleiter Rosenberg

Berlin W 35
Rauchstrasse 17/18

Personal

My dear Party Comrade Reichsleiter Rosenberg!

Only today after extensive investigations, I was able to locate the rest of the art treasures in Minsk and store them away in a safe place. Minsk had a large, in part very valuable, collection of art treasures and paintings which were removed almost in their entirety. On an order of the Reichsfuehrer SS, Reichsleiter Heinrich HIMMLER, most of the paintings, some still during my term of office, were packed by the SS and shipped to the Reich. They are worth several millions of marks and were all taken from the general district of White Ruthenia. The paintings were supposedly sent to Linz and to Koenigsberg in East Prussia. I beg to have these valuable collections, insofar as they are not needed in the Reich, again placed at the disposal of the general district of White Ruthenia, in any case however to have the money value secured for the Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories.

According to the report made by a Major of the 707th Division who today handed the remaining treasures over to me, the SS has left the rest of the paintings and works of art to the Wehrmacht for further pillaging, including very valuable paintings and furniture from the 18th and 19th centuries, vases, marble objects, clocks, etc. General Stubenrauch has taken a valuable part from Minsk with him up to the front. "Sonderfuehrer" whose names have not yet been reported to me, have carried away furniture, paintings and art objects ... in 3 trucks, without giving a receipt. I shall ascertain which units it was, in order to carry out the punishment of those who have made themselves guilty of looting. From the material that was left, local authorities of the Wehrmacht and of the SS took away more art treasures and paintings without my permission; these, however, may still be found in Minsk.

I request that the national socialist painter, Willi Springer, Berlin SW 29, Hasenheide 94, be sent here to restore those paintings which were in part thoughtlessly damaged by knife slashes, so that under his supervision whatever still can be salvaged, should be salvaged. Unfortunately, many valuable vases, china, cupboards, and period furniture from the 18th and 19th centuries were also badly damaged or destroyed. Altogether it is a question of irreplaceable valuables worth millions of marks. I request that for the future the Ministry for Eastern Affairs take action with the competent authorities of the Wehrmacht so that such vandalism be stopped and that those responsible be threatened with the heaviest possible punishment and that such punishment be inflicted if necessary.

The prehistoric museum also is in a completely devastated state. Valuable precious and semi-precious stones were stolen from the geological section. At the university, instruments worth hundreds of thousands of marks were thoughtlessly destroyed or stolen. May I suggest, my dear Reichsleiter, that you report these events to the Fuehrer? White Ruthenia, already rather poor, has suffered a heavy loss through these actions. I hope that specialists will be employed in Leningrad, and in Moscow, as well as in the old cultural cities in the Ukraine, to prevent occurances of this kind; otherwise the

civilian administration shall find everywhere the same devastation as was found here.

Heil Hitler !

Yours faithfully,

signed: Wilhelm KUBE
Commissar General for White Ruthenia

- - - - - - - - - - -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 1099-PS

30 October 1945

I, FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt Inf, O-1335567, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 1099-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt Inf
O-1335567

H1134 - 0068

H1134 - 0069

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1107-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

[redacted]

The Leader of
Directorate Group
Cultural Missions
P / 551a/44g
Expert: Göpel

Secret

Berlin, 17 May 1944.

To the Chief of Operational Staff Politic (Fuhrungestabes Politik)
Inter-office Memorandum.

Subject: Bringing of Museum Objects and Works of Art from the Occupied Eastern Territories into the Reich.

Information received concerning the bringing back of museum objects and other works of art now public property in the occupied Eastern Territories into the Reich has shown that the interests of the ministry of the East, i.e., of the Reich in this matter are not being presented with sufficient stress. There is no reason for leaving these museum stocks, some of which are extremely valuable, in the hands of various offices and authorities without establishing unmistakably the claim of possession, i.e, the right of disposal of the Reich. The atrocity propaganda of the enemy side has taken up this question at large and has retained with it evident success in the incitement against Germany in this and foreign countries.

Besides the department of archives in the Reich Ministry, the following have brought back works of art from the occupied Eastern Districts (place of deposit Troppen):

Reich Commissioner for Ukraine
(East and West European Museum - place of deposit Kiew in the district Riechau (Wehlau)).
Museum Charkow-place of deposit Wildenhof near Zinten.
Various museums of the Ukraine - place of deposit - Troppau)

Reich Commissioner for the East.
(Stock of Museum Minsk - place of deposit Königsberg and Castle Hochstedt/Donau)

Einsatzstab Rosenberg
(Museum objects from the Ukraine - place of deposit Krakau)

Armed forces from various places.
(places of deposit unknown)

For political reasons I consider it important that the rights of possession of the evacuated museums be kept up fully, respectively in all cases where no owner is known, the right of possession of the Reich is to be clarified. I, therefore, ask for approval of the following measures:

1. A decree is to go to all offices involved according to which all works of art of public property which have been brought back should be put under direct control of the ministry of the East.

2. Action should be taken to inventorize all returned objects of art and have their art and material values determined.

3. The places of deposit of these objects of art seized in this way are to be examined by experts and, if necessary the required measures taken to secure these objects from air damage or other destruction. A checking at regular intervals of the conditions and intactness of the stocks should be made as is done at the places of deposit of the German museums.

IS 18/5

(v.d. Milwe-Schröden

H1134 - 0070

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 1107-PS

3 November 1945.

I, WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE, LT (jg), USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the German and English languages; and that the above is a correct and true translation of Document No. 1107-PS.

WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE
LT (jg), USNR,
391590.

H1134-0071

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1109-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Draft Copy

Z.f.9. Berlin, 17 June 1944.

SECRET.

Note
for the Director of Operational Group (Fuehrungsgruppe) r-4,
Herrn v.d. Milwe-Schroeddann
in the building

Concerning: Bolshevic Atrocity Propaganda.
Case: Memoranda of the Special Staff RR dated 15 April 1944.

1. Evacuation of the Population:

The undersigned was in Kiev during the whole of October 1943 until the beginning of November, shortly before the occupation of the City by Soviet Russia. At the beginning of October a part of the population had been evacuated especially in the parts of the town by the Dnieper and the areas in question were declared "ballte zones". During of October the population of the city was further evacuated quarter by quarter. This evacuation took place by order of the military authorities; it was, however, carried out by the civil administration ("Stadtkommandantur"). The trolley line and the railway trains had already been put in readiness by the German civil administration. Nonetheless, the greater proportion of the inhabitants listened to the Soviet counter-propaganda, with the result that they did not wish to abandon the city; they sought accommodation in quarters still untouched by the evacuation or went off on foot to the neighboring areas of the city. There was an uninterrupted stream of Nameless people wandering through the streets, with a few belongings Hard ship was unavoidable as a result of the evacuation, but it was still further increased by the passive resistance of the population. A protection could not be set up in the evacuated sections of the city so these were very soon no locked doors. It was probably mainly members of the local bands dressed in field gray, who are to be held responsible for the plundering of empty dwellings, etc. At this time much property belonging to museums and Institutions was destroyed.

2. The Removal of Cultural Property:

A great deal of material from museums, archives, institutions and other cultural institutions was taken out of and away from Kiev in the autumn of 1943, in the proper way. These actions to safequard the material were carried out by the Special Purpose Staff RR as well as by the individual institute directors etc. at the instigation of the Reich Commissar. At the beginning a great deal of the evacuated property was taken only to the rear areas; later on this material was forwarded to the Reich. When the undersigned, towards the end of September, received the mission from the cultural division of the Reich Commissar to take out of Kiev the remaining cultural effect, the most worthwhile materials from the cultural point of view had already been removed. During October some 40 carloads of cultural effects were sent to the Reich. In this case it was chiefly a question of valuables which belonged to the research institutions of the national Research Centre of the Ukraine. These institutions are continuing their work at the present time in the Reich and are being directed in such a manner that at a given moment they can be brought back into the Ukraine. The cultural valuables which could not be promptly safequarded, were plundered. In this case, it was always a question, however, of less valuable material, as the principal valuables were taken away in accordance with orders.

In October 1943 factory, workshop etc. plants were taken

H1134 - 0072

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1109-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL
(cont.)

out of Kiev by order of the to what place they were removed I do not know. At the time of the entry of Soviet Russia there was nothing valuable in this respect left in the city.

(Signature) Dr. Ulmann

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 1109-PS

25 November 1945

I, EVE GLAZIER, P/O, 37371, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 1109-PS.

EVE GLAZIER
P/O
37371

Exhibit U.S.A. 384
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT NO. 1117-PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

The Reichs Marshal of the
Greater German Reich

Headquarters, 1, May 1941

The battle against tJews, Freemasons and other affiliated forces of opposite "Weltanschauung" is a foremost task of National Socialism during the war.

I therefore welcome the decision of Reichsleiter ROSENBERG to form staffs in all occupied territories for the purpose of safeguarding all research material and cultural goods of the above-mentioned groups, and transporting them to Germany.

All party, State and Wehrmacht Services are therefore requested to give all possible support and assistance to the Chief of Staff of Reichsleiter ROSENBERG's staffs, Reichshauptstellenleiter Party Comrade UTIKAL, and his deputy DRK- Reldfuehrer Party Comrade von Beer, in the discharge of their duties. The above-mentioned persons are requested to report to us on their work, particularly on any difficulties that might arise.

signed: GOERING.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 1117-PS

Nov 26,1945

I,FRED NIEBERGALL, 2nd Lt. Inf., O-1335567,hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the German and English languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of document no. 1117-PS.

FRED NIEBERGALL
2nd Lt. Inf.
O-1335567

H1134 - 0073

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1118-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

18 June 1942

To the
Reich Marshal of the Greater German Reich
Berlin W 8

U/Sz 1073/42 i

Leipziger Str. 3

Dear Reich Marshal:

From your letter of 30 May 1942, I see that Oberfeldfuehrer von BEHR of the German Red Cross informed you of certain matters on which he has not been able to report to me yet. I am pleased by the appreciation which you express for my Einsatzstab for the occupied territories. It is, for me, self-evident that the members of my Einsatzstab will continue to be at your disposal as much as is at all possible.

Since the new M-action to secure Jewish house furnishings for the establishment of the administration in the East, which is purely a state measure, has been added to the former tasks of my Einsatzstab, it has been necessary to undertake an organizational separation of duty fields according to my party and state bureaus. In order that the interests of the Einsatzstab may be protected within the framework of the M-action, I have appointed Oberfeldfuehrer von BEHR of the German Red Cross, head of the bureau West of the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories, while the party bureau of the Einsatzstab Paris will be restaffed.

In consideration of the importance of the work of the Einsatzstab in history and in order to relieve my fellow workers, I have directed that in the interest of a correct documentary grasp of the securing of art objects hitherto undertaken, all evidence on this subject will be checked. This work is at present in progress.

Since in certain circles, as you write, the conjecture was expressed that one of my bureaus would deal in art objects, I have ordered this check. I have entrusted it to the head of my office for plastic art, Bereichsleiter SCHOLZ, and Abschnittsleiter von INGRAM who wears the Knight's Cross. Furthermore some time ago I explicitly approved the measures of the chief of staff of my Einsatzstab, Stabsfuehrer party member UTIKAL, that party member Dr LOHSE of the office of formative art is at your disposal for your personal wishes. This will be managed in the same way in the future. I should like to emphasize explicitly that the new arrangement made in my bureaus in the West will in no way prejudice your wishes, but that the gentlemen of my Einsatzstab are at your disposal in the same way as before. I may ask you, however, to continue to further the work of my Einsatzstab in the same way as you have done hitherto, which is so worthy of thanks. I ask you especially to continue to give the chief of staff of my Einsatzstab, Reich Office leader (Reichsamtsleiter) UTIKAL, the opportunity to report to you in especially important cases on the total work of the Einsatzstab. I have instructed party member UTIKAL to give you a report on the difficulties which have arisen in connection with the Fuehrer edict of 1 March 1942. It is so grotesque that difficulties should arise for my Einsatzstab from this liberal Fuehrer edict, that you should know about it for curiosity's sake alone. If you could intercede for my Einsatzstab in this connection, I would be very grateful to you in the interest of the cause.

Since you have already deposited sums in a special account for the art objects which you have acquired, I would be grateful for information as to what use you had intended for the funds of this account. Please do not take this question amiss or misinterpret it. I believe, however, that we agree that the tasks of my Einsatzstab could and can be carried out only on the basis of the fight of the NSDAP. Moreover, the Reich Treasurer has liberally made available the means for carrying out these tasks. Therefore I believe that we also agree that the art objects secured from Jewish possessions must be considered sequestered for the benefit of the NSDAP. In regard to the research material the Fuehrer has already decided that the supply secured by the Einsatzstab be dedicated to the Hohe Schule. It would be no more than right for the great values of the secured art treasures to be transferred to the NSDAP some

day. Of course it remains up to the Fuehrer himself to dispose of this matter. Since the NSDAP has financed the 20 year battle against Jewry, however, such a settlement would no doubt be admissible.

I would be grateful to you if you could let me know your opinion on this question some time, so that the corresponding suggestions can be made to the Fuehrer at the proper time. Since the Reich Treasurer is continually making considerable means available for my Einsatzstab, you can understand that I am interested in clearing up this question.

As I have been informed there are good working connections with various offices of your jurisdiction, especially in the work of the Einsatzstab in the East. In the future I shall continue to see to it that everything of importance for your field of activity reaches you.

I am enclosing a document from the work of my Einsatzstab in the East, which may interest you, the personally written biography of the Russian parachutist K. KAITANOW.

Heil Hitler

(no signature)

H1134-0075

Berlin W8, 30 May 1942
Leipziger Str. 3

stamped:
Ministerial Office
received 4 June 1942
No 01141

(partly illegible notation): ... 4 June ...
GR (2?) Utikal ...

The Reich Marshal of
the Greater German Reich

Dear party member Rosenberg:

Your Einsatzstab for the seizure of cultural goods in Paris has, I believe, received the false repute of dealing in art goods itself. I know the work of the Einsatzstab very well and must say that there is no bureau which I can praise so unreservedly for its continued work and initiative as this bureau with all its staff. I presumably gave occasion for the repute of dealing in art goods, because I asked several gentlemen who are especially well versed in the field, if during their stay in Paris or France they should hear anywhere that pictures or other art objects are to be put on the market by art dealers or private individuals, to look at these things and let me know whether there is anything of interest for me among them. Since the latter has often been the case, I then asked the gentlemen to do me a favor and acquire the things for me, for which purpose I placed a warehouse at their disposal. Therefore, if some gentlemen were eager to establish contact with art dealers, it was exclusively a personal favor which was being done for me and which benefits the expansion of my collection. Since many would-be purchasers are looking for art objects in the occupied territory, I can imagine that they, perhaps in ignorance of the situation, or perhaps out of jealousy, falsely suspected the gentlemen of your Einsatzstab.

I feel obligated to offer you this explanation and to ask you that this procedure may continue. On the other hand, I do support the work of your Einsatzstab personally, wherever I can, and the fact that I was able to aid the Einsatzstab through my agencies is responsible for a large part of the seized cultural goods.

Greetings and Heil Hitler,

Your

signed: HERMANN GOERING

H1134-0076

TRANSLATION OF DOC. 1118-PS
(cont.)

To the
Reich Marshal of the Greater German Reich
Prime Minister Hermann Goering
Berlin W9
Leipziger Platz 7

11 January 1943
Charlottenburg 2
Bismarckstrasse 1

Dear party member Goering:

My most cordial congratulations on your 50th birthday.

On this occasion I think back to the first fighting years of our movement, when I met you as a German officer at Adolf Hitler's. I think of your unqualified efforts for the Fuehrer and the long years of battle, which finally led our movement to victory. Please be assured how well I believe I understand what you have accomplished for the people and the Fuehrer, and I wish you further determined, unbroken strength to hold on to the victorious conclusion of this decisive battle for the Reich for the coming years.

I take the liberty of giving you, as a friend of the plastic art, a Dutch painting as a little remembrance for your museum. It was painted by Jacob Adriaensz Bellevois, comes from the 17th century, and is called "Seascape".

Tomorrow I shall offer you my personal congratulations on your anniversary.

Heil Hitler,
Yours respectfully,

(No signature)

- - - - - - - -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 1118-PS

31 October 1945

I, WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE, Lt (jg) USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document 1118-PS.

WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE
Lt (jg) USNR
391590

H1134 - 0077

Exhibit U.S.A. 377
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

EXCERPT OF TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1233PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Secured Objects of Art in the Government-General (Poland)

(Sichergestellte Kunstwerke im Generalgouvernement)

H1134 – 0078

Introductory page:

By reason of the decree of 16 December 1939 by the Governor General of the occupied Polish territories, the special commissioner for securing objects of art and culture was able to seize within six months almost all the art objects of the country, with one exception: A series of Flamish Gobelins of the Castle of Cracow. According to the latest information these are now in France, so that subsequent seizure will be possible.

Scientific treatment of the objects of art took place simultaneously with the salvage activities. The result is shown in the catalog with pictorial supplement, which clearly proves the penetration of the East by the German will for culture.

It is superfluous to speak of an independent Polish development of art in the historic epochs of style. There are creations of German impressions and Dutch or Flemish works which according to their spirit and character, equally do not express anything but German spirit and German culture. French and Italian works are in the minority.

The state of preservation of the secured objects of art was generally poor. The Poles' hasty salvage efforts prior to the outbreak of hostilities and neglect over a considerable time have caused damage of all sorts which required immediate remedy. For this reason, our own shops for restoring purposes, were established in Cracow and Warsaw, so that these works of art could receive care corresponding to their value.

The catalong contains a qualitative selection corresponding to the standards of leading German museums. German art and everything having a rank within the entire European development of art was given preference.

Art Objects excluded by this qualitative selection were also scientifically treated, catalogued, and protected against loss or danage.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 1233 PS

17 November 1945

I, VIRGINIA von SCHON 046318, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of excerpts of Document No. 1233 PS

VIRGINIA von SCHON
046318

H1134 - 0079

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1600-PS
Office of U.S. Chief of Counsel

The State-Picture Gallery in Dresden

The Director. Dresden-A1, 1 June 1940.

To: Ministerialrat Dr. Hanssen
Berlin W 8
Wilhenmstr. 64

Dear Ministerialrat!

Permit me to express my thanks for having sent me the copy of the letter of the State Secretary Dr. Landfried.

I herewith enclose a copy of my letter of 16 March 1940 to Reichsleiter Bormann, referring mainly to the confiscated property of the convents in the Ostmark. In accordance with the Fuhrers decree on Jewish property, a generally applicable procedure may be recommended in this case, too; the Fuhrer should have the final word in the distribution to the individual consumers, rather the first option on any purchase (this regulation should be made to be retroactive as of the time of the assumption of power if possible.

Heil Hitler!

Yours faithfully
H. Posse.

1 enclosure.

- -

RL.M.B. At present the Fuhrer's HQ, 16 Jan 41
Bo/Fu

1) Director Dr. Posse
Dresden-Hellerau

Tunnigtweg 14

Personal!

Registered!

Dear Dr. Posse!

Enclosed herewith I am sending you the pictures of the altar from the convent in Hohenfurther near Kruman. The convent and its entire property shall be confiscated in the immediate future because of the attitude, hostile towards the State, of its inhabitants.

It shall be up to you to decide whether the pictures shall remain in the convent at Hohenfurth or be transferred to the museum in Linz after the latter shall be completed

I await your decision in the matter.

Heil Hitler!

Faithfully yours,

Enclosures. (initialed by Bormann)

2) Presented again: 3 May 1941.

H1134 - 0080

The State-Picture Gallery in Dresden.

The Director. Dresden-A1, 16 May 1941

The Reichsleiter Martin Bormann,
Berlin W 8
Wilhelmstr. 64

Personal!

Dear Reichsleiter!

I report that I have returned today from a weeks trip to Oberdonau and Vienna. Besides checking on the confiscated convents and monasteries, the main reason for my trip to Linz and Oberdonau was to find out whether any of the confiscated convents offered facilities suitable for temporarily storing the collections acquired by the Fuhrer.

After having seen the convents at Hohenfurth, St. Florian, Krenesmunster, Schloegel, Wilhering etc., and after having discussed the matter with Gauleiter Eigruber and his deputies, I found that the convent in Krenesmunster is extremely suited for this purpose. There are in this convent 50-60 rooms that can be locked; the various new acquisitions can be stored there temporarily. There is also the "Emperor's Stall" there, 25 m long, and a flight of 7 rooms in good shape, at present the picture-gallery of the convent, not very valuable, is on exposition. From time to time, the newly acquired collections may be presented to the Fuhrer there.

Krenesmunster is situated in the woods, far away from industrial area; therefore, a threat from the air hardly exists.

In case the Fuhrer should agree with the proposal to have Krenesmunster as a depot for Linz, it is suggested that the Germans from Bessarabia who are at present living in the convent, be moved into another convent, in order to safeguard the stocks, particularly against fire.

Therefore, I beg to have the Fuhrer state his intentions regarding their proposal which is also supported by Gauleiter Eigruber not only is the collection Lanz in Amsterdam, packed in the meantime, awaiting, also several other collections of paintings for which there'd hardly be space enough in Munich, are ready, and so is Dr. Topfer's library which was bought in Switzerland. Also the very rich stocks, already packed and stored in Vienna, confiscated from Jewish owners, and many new acquitions from Vienna could be brought to Krenesmunster. This way, room could be made in Vienna and what remains of confiscated art-treasures could be distributed.

Heil Hitler!

Yours faithfully

H. Posse.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Report on the trip, undertaken on orders to Cracow and Warsaw, so as to ascertain the kind and the amount of confiscated art-treasures.

It was impossible to carry out the order as such, as well as that part of it which drafting of a plan as to how to dispose of the confiscated art treasures, since most of them were still packed away in cases and were either stored in Cracow, or in other places, particularly in Warsaw ready for shipment to Cracow.

H1134 - 0081

H1134 - 0082

Since 6 October, under the direction of Understate secretary Dr. Muhlmann, as the special deputy of General Field Marshall Goering and as the Director of the Department of Science and Training, the storing of all the valuable Art treasures has been in full swing with assistance of suitable experts from Berlin, Vienna, and Breslan, and, so far as I could determine it has been almost completely carried out.

Works of art and culture, mainly from Warsaw were saved, particularly from the badly damaged chateau of the Kings whose furniture and interior decorations were salvaged to a large extent. In Crawcow, box-cars containing the works of art secured from public, clerical and private ownership arrived almost daily. The Art treasures are being collected in the particularly suitable building of the Jagellonic Library in Carcow and are being set up there properly, a task which may be-finished by February 1940. As soon as the task of collecting shall be finished and an inventory is made so that a complete survey of the entire valuable Polish Art-treasure can be made, I shall again travel to Cracow so as to carry out the order given me.

The official pictorial service is photographing all important works of art little by little. The governor general shall present these pictures in one form of a photo-Album to the Fuhrer.

I was able to gain some knowledge on the public and private collections as well as clerical property in Cracow and Warsaw. It is true that we cannot hope too much to enrich ourselves from the acquisition of great Art works of paintings and sculptures there with the exception of the Veit Stoss-altar and the plates of Hans von Kulmbach in the Church of Maria in Cracow, the Raffael, Leonardo and Rembrandt from the collection Czarborpki and several other works from the National Museum in Warsaw--works of a rather high value of whose existence we in Germany had already known. Richer and more extensive is the Polish stock of "objects d'art", such as handicraft in gold and silver of German origin to a large part, particularly from the Church of Maria and the cathedral of Wawel) Tapestries, arms, porcellans, furniture, bronzes, coins, valuable parchment-scrips, books etc. Those were the principle fields of interest for Polish collectors. besides their interest in Polish National Art, particularly of the 19th century. It is characteristic that apart from original paintings so many copies can be found in Polish castles and private collections (for example Czartoryski, Wilano etc). However, many thousand works of art of all kinds ought to be found in the Jagellonic Library.

As I said before, I shall not be able to make proposals regarding the distribution as long as an inventory of the entire material does not exist. However, I should like to reserve for the museum in Linz the three most important paintings of the Czartoryski collection, namely the Raffael, Leonardo and Rembrandt which are at present in the Kaiser-Frederick Museum in Berlin. We in Dresden are particularly interested in the interior decorations of the castle of the Kings in Warsaw since Saxonian architects and artists have created them; therefore, the suggestion is made that the salvaged parts of it (panellings-, doors, inlaid floors, sculpturs, mirrors, glass-chandeliers, porcellans etc) be used for the interior decoration of the Pavillion of the "Zivinges" in Dresden.

A number of fine drawings of Albrecht Durer's and other old German masters kept in the Ossolineum in Lemberg, has fallen into Russian hands. Maybe at least Durer's 27 pieces could still be salvaged for Germany.

While in Warsaw, a Polish collegue of mine whom I have known, for quite some time told me that the storing of the art treasures was begun already in June 1939; by the end of July the entire official museum property was packed in cases and ready for shipment. In spite of that the Poles did not manage to carry any important stocks away and save them for themselves, with the exception of the famous tapestry, collection of Wawel, the riding costumes kept also ther, arms and historically valuable pieces like the

blood-banner of the Prophet which, as far as I could ascertain, fell into Russian hands.

/s/ Hans Posse.

- -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT 1600-PS

11 Oct. 1945.

I, WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE, LT(jg) USNR 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 1600-PS.

WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE
LT(jg) USNR
391590

H1134 - 0083

Exhibit USA. 378
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS FROM DOCUMENT 1709-PS
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF COUNSEL

Page 68 Par. 134

The collection LUBOMIERSKI in LEMBERG contained among others 31 valuable hand drawings by ALBRECHT DUERER. An offer made in the spring of 1940 by a special commissioner through the foreign office to the Russian government, to exchange these drawings by DUERER for equally valuable Russian works of arts and literary monument, was refused. On the day of the capture of Lemberg, the special commissioner, Dr. MULHLMANN and the museum director Dr. KUDLICH went there by order of the Reichmarshal, to conduct a search for the hand drawings. The investigation encountered considerable difficulties, because the Russians had reorganised the system of museums in LEMBERG and because the collection LUBOMIERSKI did not exist any more.

In the course of further investigations Prof. GEBAROWICZ of the BAWAROWSKI-MUSEUM, who had publicized the drawings in the past, was thoroughly intorrogated also. Finally he explained, that he kept the drawings carefully hidden from the Russians in the BAWAROWSKI-MUSEUM. On demand, he also brought them out from concealment.

After thorough examination, the sequestration was anounced, and a regular receipt was issued.

The special commissioner has turned over these hand drawings in July 1941 to the REICHMARSHAL in person, who brought them to the Fuehrer into the headquarters, where they still are. By specific order of the Fuehrer, they remain temporarily in his possession.

The following single drawings are affected, which were entered in the supplement of the catalogue (31 drawings on 23 cartons):

Carton I	1. Self portrait
	2. 6 pillows
Carton II	3. The young steer
Carton III	4. Nude with mirror
	5. Partial sketch of the same figure
Carton IV	6. Nude woman with headscarf in a niche on a sphere
Carton V	7. Nude man with lion
	8. Nude man with mirror
	9. Attached weak reprint of the same figure
Carton VI	10. Corner ornament with eagle
	11. The holy family
Carton VII	12. Drapery study (Gewandstudie)
	13. Nude man lying down
Carton VIII	14. Oarsman
Carton IX	15. Horse
Carton X	16. Europa on the steer
Carton XI	17. Corpus christi
Carton XII	18. Nude woman with a staff
Carton XIII	19. Sampson with the city gates of GAZA
Carton XIV	20. Mary and child
	21. Childhood
Carton XV	22. Pictures of the emperors Charlemagne and Sigismund
Carton XVI	23. The holy family in a hut
Carton XVII	24. Study for a Madonna and the head of an old man
	25. Two geometric drawings
Carton XVIII	26. Mary with a chield in an indicated renaissance hall
Carton XIX	27. Christ as king of the universe
Carton XX	28. Mans head with a cap

H1134 - 0084

Carton XXI	29. Lamentations over Christ
Carton XXII	30. Head of a deer
Carton XXIII	31. Study for an adoration, left kneeling Mary, right Holy Joseph

Page 77, Par. 148

Works of art for decorative purposes:

On the desire of the Governor General, a number of 2nd and 3rd class art objects was made available to him for exhibition and decorative purposes.- Reference Paragraph 141 and 142.- The architect FRANZ KOETTGEN in KRAKAU was charged with the execution of this mission, especially the furnishing of CASTLE KRESSENDORF and the castle in KRAKAU. A list was made by the special commissioner, in which all objects, put at the disposal of architect KOETTGEN, were exactly listed in detail.

During the conference with the architect KOETTGEN, on 30 July 1942, the latter promised, to continue the inventory, already started by him, more rapidly, and to conclude by the end of 1942 at the latest. He furthermore said he was willing, to provide the special commissioner after the completion of the inventories with a directory of the location of the individual objects. The completeness of the transfered art objects and their careful storing can only be examined after the completion of the inventories.

A copy of the above mentioned lists on the object, put at the disposal of KOETTGEN is added to the report as enclosure Nr. 8

Page 80

Of the objects, taken from the depot of the special commissioner in the state library in KRAKAU as of 1 Aug 1942, the following were inspected:

I. In Berlin in the depot of the special Commissioner and in the safe of the German Bank:

East German Master 1430 "Picture of the Vesper"	Catalogue No 4
German Master 16th century "Picture of a bearded man"	" " 17
Master von Kappenberg "Mary with child	" " 27
Dirk Bouts "Annunciation of Mary"	" " 35
Netherland Master "Lamentation over Christ"	" " 42
Berckheyde "Small Houtpoort in Haarlem	" " 45

H1134-0085

Breughel "Folksfestival"	Catalogue Nr.	47
Gerrit Dou "Rembrandt's mother"	" "	51
Pinturicchio "Madonna and child"	" "	138
Raffael "Picture of a young man"	" "	141
Venetian Master "Mary and child"	" "	145
de Largilliere "Portrait of a lady"	" "	158

Further two 2nd class pictures, namely
"The lustful old man" (unequal lovers)
"Fugger's Portrait".

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS FROM DOCUMENT 1709-PS — 12 November 1945

I, Willard Evans Skidmore, Lt (gg) USNR 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Excerpts from Document 1709-PS

Willard Evans Skidmore
Lt. (jg) USNR
391590

H1134 - 0086

Exhibit U.S.A. 376
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 1773-PS (Excerp
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Extracts from "Das Recht des Generalgouvernements" (Krakau, 1941)

E 8. Impounding of Valuables

E 800. Decree on the Sequestration of Property of the Former Polish State in the General Gouvernement. - 15 November 1939

On the basis of Article 5, section 1 of the decree of the Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor governing the administration of occupied Polish territory dated 12 October 1939 (RGBl I, page 2077), I issue the following order:

Article 1 - 1. All movable and stationary property of the former Polish State with accessories, including all demands, participation, rights and other interests inside the General Gouvernement, will be sequestered for the purpose of securing all manner of public valuables.

2. The seizure, administration, and utilization of the sequestered property is the duty of the department "Trusteeship for the General Gouvernement" in the office of the Governor General.

Article 2 - The director of the department "Trusteeship for the General Gouvernement"will in agreement with the director of the finance department in the office of the Governor General issue the regulations required to execute this decree, in particular on the duty to make a declaration of the wealth belonging to the former Polish State as well as the treatment of rights of third persons on the wealth of the former Polish State and of claims against this wealth.

Article 3 - This regulation will be effective on the day of its publication.

The Governor General for the Occupied Polish Territories

FRANK

. . . . . .

H1134 - 0087

E 810. Decree on the Right of Ownership of Wealth of the former Polish Territories. - 24 September 1940

On the basis of Article 5, section 1 of the decree of the Fuehrer and chancellor of the Reich of 12 Oct 1939 (RGBl I, page 2077) I issue the following order:

Article 1 - The property sequestered on the basis of Article 1, section 1 of the decree on the confiscation of the wealth of the former Polish State within the General Gouvernement of 15 Nov 39 (Verordnungsblatt GGP, page 37) will be transferred to the ownership of the General Gouvernement. A legal right of the General Gouvernement will not be established by this transaction.

Article 2 - 1. Rights of third persons in the property mentioned in Article 1 expire insofar as they existed before 20 November 1939.

2. It will be determined later on whether and to what extent an indemnification can be granted to persons, especially to rightful foreign claimants, for legal losses suffered through the action.

Article 3 - The seizure and administration of the property mentioned in Article 1 will be executed until further notice on the basis of the regulation on the confiscation of the wealth of the former Polish State within the General Gouvernement of 15 November 1939 (Verordnungsblatt, GGP, page 37) and of the first executionary decree issued on 16 March 1940 (Verordnungsblatt GGP II, page 175).

Article 4 - The director of the department "Trusteeship for the General Gouvernement" in agreement with the director of the finance department in the office of the governor general will be in charge of the property mentioned in Article 1.

Article 5 - This regulation will be effective on the day of its publication.

The Governor General

FRANK

. . . . . .

H1134 - 0088

E 845. Decree on the Confiscation of Art Objects in the General Gouvernement 16 December 1939

On the basis of Article 5, section 1 of the decree of the Fuehrer and Chancellor of the Reich on the administration of the occupied Polish territories of 12 Oct 1939 (RGBl I, page 2077), I order the following:

Article 1 - All art objects in public possession in the General Gouvernement will be confiscated for the fulfillment of public tasks of common interest insofar as it has not already been seized under the decree on the confiscation of the wealth of the former Polish State in the General Gouvernement of 15 November 1939 (Verordnungsblatt GGP, page 37).

Article 2 - With the exception of art collections and art objects which were the property of the former Polish State, art objects will be considered as owned by the public:

1. private art collections which have been taken under protection by the special commissioner for the seizure and safekeeping of the art and cultural treasures,
2. all ecclesiastical art property with the exception of those objects required for the daily performance of liturgic actions.

Article 3 - 1. In order to determine whether art objects are public property in the sense of this regulation, every private and ecclesiastical art possession has to be registered with exact data on the kind, nature and number of pieces.

2. Everyone who possessed or at the present time is in possession of or else is entitled to dispose of such objects of art since 15 March 39, is obliged to register the same.

3. Everyone is obliged to make upon request truthful and appropriate statements.

Article 4 - The special commissioner appointed by me for the seizure and safekeeping of the art and cultural treasures will determine in cases of doubt what art collections and art objects in detail will have to be regarded on the basis of Article 2 of this regulation as public art property. He also will decide on the eventual necessary exceptions.

Article 5 - 1. He will be punished with imprisonment

1) Who undertakes to conceal, sell or remove objects of art from the General Gouvernement,

2) Who refuses or else gives incorrect or incomplete information required from him on the basis of this decree.

2. The special court is competent for the trial.

Article 6 - The special commissioner appointed for the seizure and safekeeping of the art and cultural treasures will issue the regulations necessary for the execution of this decree.

Article 7 - This regulation will be put into effect immediately.

The Governor General for the Occupied Polish Territories

FRANK

. . . . . .

H1134 - 0089

E 846. First Enforcement Regulation for the Order of 16 December 1939 on the Confiscation of Art Objects in the General Gouvernement.

In order to execute the decree on the confiscation of art objects in the General Gouvernement of 16 December 1939 (Verordnungsblatt GGP, page 209), I order the following:

Article 1 - The registration decree in Article 3, section 1 of the regulation must be carried out by 15 February 1940 with the office of the special commissioner for the seizure and safekeeping of the art and cultural objects, Cracow, Bergakademie.

Article 2 - 1) Objects of artistic, cultural-historical and historical value which originate from the time before 1850, have to be registered.

2) The registration includes the following:

a) paintings
b) sculpture
c) products of handicraft (for instance antique furniture, china ware, glass golden and silver objects, Gobelins, rugs, embroideries, lace-work, paramento, etc.)
d) drawings, engravings, woodcuts, etc.
e) rare manuscripts, musical manuscripts, autographs, book-paintings, miniatures, prints, covers, etc.
f) weapons, armors, etc.
g) coins, medals, seals, etc.

3) Regarding the art objects mentioned in section 2, detailed information has to be given, if possible, on the master, the time of production, the contents of the representation, measurements and material (for instance, wood, canvas, bronze, etc.)

Article 3 - The special commissioner will send in writing his decision in doubtful cases or in the eventual necessary exceptions as provided for in Article 4 of the decree. The decision will be final.

Article 4 - Scientific experts will be entrusted with the execution of the decree.

The Governor General for the Occupied Polish Territories
By order:
Dr. MUEHLMANN

- - - - - - - - -

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO 1773-PS

16 October 1945

I, WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE, Lt (jg) USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of the indicated excerpts of Document 1773-PS.

WILLARD EVANS SKIDMORE
Lt (jg) USNR
391590

H1134 - 0090

Exhibit U.S.a. 375
Filed Dec. 18, 1945

H1134-0091

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT 3042 PS
OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

CAMP MARCUS W. ORR)
) SS
SALZBURG, AUSTRIA)

Kajetan MUEHLMANN states under oath:

I have been a member of the NSDAP since 1 April 1938, I was a BRIG. GEN. (OBERFUEHRER) in the SS.

I never was an illegal Nazi.

I was the special deputy of the Governor General of Poland, HANS FRANK, for the safeguarding of art treasures in the General Government, October 1939 to September 1943.

Goering, in His function as chairman of the Reich Defense Council, had commissioned me with this duty.

I confirm, that it was the official policy of the Governerl General, HANS FRANK, to take into custody all important art treasures, which belonged to Polish public institutions, private collections and the Church. I confirm, that the art treasures, mentioned, were actually confiscated, and it is clear to me, that they would not have remained in Poland in case of a German victory, but that they would have been used to complement German artistic property.

/s/ Dr. Kajetan Muehlmann
/t/ DR. KAJETANN MUEHLMANN

Sworn to and subscribed
before me, this 19th day
of November 1945.

/s/ B.D. Silliman Major JAGD
/t/ B.D. SILLIMAN MAJOR, J..G.D.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT NO. 3042 PS

22 November 1945

I, WILLARD E. SKIDMORE Lt., (jg), USNR, 391590, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document No. 3042 PS.

WILLARD E. SKIDMORE,
Lt. (jg) USNR
391590

H1134 - 0092

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT R-143.
OFFICE OF U S CHIEF OF COUNSEL

Berlin, 16 December 1939

The Reich Fuehrer SS
Chief of German Police in the
Ministry of Justice
Reich Commissioner for the
Strengthening of Germanism

S I V 1 Nr. 844 III/39-151-Sdb.P

Urgent Decree

The regional officers of the Secret Police in the annexed Eastern territories
The Commanders of Security Police and Security Service in Cracow, Radom, Warsaw, Lublin.

For information

to.

(Translator's note: here follow the names of 14 lower authorities who were to be informed of the decree)

Subject matter: Procedure for the confiscation of works of art, archives, documents, collections etc.

I

The Chief Custodian East has issued the following Order dated 1 December 1939 concerning Confiscation:

1) To strengthen Germanism and in the interest of the defence of the Reich, all articles mentioned in section II of this decree are hereby confiscated. This applies to all articles located in the territories annexed by the Fuehrer's and Reich Chancellor's decree of 12.10.1939 and in the General Government for the occupied Polish territories. They are confiscated for the benefit of the German Reich and are at the disposal of the Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of Germanism. Provided always that this does not apply to articles which are fully or for more than 75% the property of German citizens or persons of German race. In particular are confiscated all articles mentioned in Section II which are in archives, museums, public collections or in the private possession of Poles and Jews if their protection and expert safekeeping is in German interest.

II

1) Historical and pre-historical articles, documents, books, which are of interest for questions of cultural value and of publice life, specially for the question of the German share in the historical, cultural and economic development of the country, and documents which are relevant for the history of present events.
2) Articles of art of cultural value e.g. pictures, sculptures, furniture, carpets, crystal, books etc.
3) Furnishings and jewellery made of precious metal.

III

The administration of the confiscated articles is ordered hereby and a commissioner is to be appointed by the president of the Association for research and education

H1134 - 0093

"The Ancestral Heritage Registered Society", Berlin-Dahlem, Fuecklerstrasse 16, is to be entrusted to be the General Custodian. He is empowered to appoint custodians and deputies and is entitled to take all steps necessary for the protection and maintenance of the confiscated articles.

IV

All confiscations made before this decree by authorities of the Reich Fuehrer SS and Chief of German Police and the Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of Germanism are hereby confirmed. They are to be regarded as made for the benefit of the German Reich and are at the disposal of the Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of Germanism.

V

In due course the usual questionnaires for cataloguing the confiscated articles are to be sent to the Chief Custodian East.

VI

This decree is made in pursuance of the Ordinance of Prime Minister, General Field Marshal Goering of 19.10.39- St. M. Dec. 9547.

This decree has been extended by a further confiscation decree of 5.12.1939 as follows:

In section II of my decree of 1.12.1939 concerning confiscation of works of art and of cultural value the following categories are to be added:

4) All articles, especially apparatus and accessories for conserving, developing, serving to and maintaining the confiscated objects and collections. Under this category fall also items of natural, medical, technical and agricultural science, i.e. not only appliances.

5) Armour, costumes, national dresses, musical instruments, coins, stamps and similar collections.

6) The articles under 1-5 also if they are in schools, particularly universities, colleges, technical institutes.

II

I request to proceed at once with the confiscations in accordance with this decree. One copy each of the confiscation minute is to be sent to:

1. Reich Security Main Department.

2. Prof. Dr. Heinrich Harmjanz, Berlin-Dahlem, Fucklerstrasse 16, who as delegate of the president of the association for research and education "The Ancestral Heritage Registered Society" Berlin-Dahlem, has been appointed general custodian for these values. His deputy is the manager of the association for research and education "The Ancestral Heritage Registered Society" Berlin-Dahlem, SS-Stumbannfuehrer Wolfram Sievers.

III

Before archives, documents and libraries are handed over to the "Ancestral Heritage Registered Society" further

H1134 - 0094

instructions from the Reich Security Main Department have to be awaited. Care has to be taken that the confiscated archives, works of art etc. are kept safely in suitable rooms.

signed. H. Himmler

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT R-134

10 November 1945

I, ALFRED BREINER, X 046349, (civilian), hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages: and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document R-134.

ALFRED BREINER
(civilian)
X 046349

H1134-0095

Not marked

Filed Dec. 18, 1945
HB id.

W

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL

H-1134

DOCUMENT BOOK

"W"

"PLUNDER OF ART TREASURES"

ROBERT H. JACKSON
U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL

OF COUNSEL:

WALTER W. BRUDNO

PRESENTED BY:

ROBERT G. STOREY,
U. S. Executive Trial Counsel